

# Jordan Times

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## Lockerbie suspects may seek trial outside Libya

LONDON (R) — A British lawyer advising two Libyans accused of bombing a U.S. airliner over Scotland in 1988 said on Friday he may seek a trial for his clients outside Britain, the United States or Libya. "I foresee the possibility that a fair trial could be obtained in some countries other than Britain, Libya or the U.S.," lawyer Stephen Mitchell told Sky television. Mr. Mitchell said countries where a fair trial might be held included France, Egypt, Italy and Cyprus. Britain and the United States allege the two men were members of the Libyan intelligence service and were involved in the mid-air bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie in Scotland which killed 270. Libya denies involvement in the bombing. It has refused to hand over the two suspects. Mr. Mitchell's London law firm said he was travelling back from Libya where he had been advising Libyan lawyers on the application of a Jan. 21 United Nations Security Council resolution demanding the surrender of the two men. U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali sent an envoy to Libya on Friday with a message asking leader Muammar Qadhafi to clarify his position on the Lockerbie attack and the September 1989 bombing of a French UTA airliner over Niger, which killed 171 people.

## Abu Dhabi initials BCCI compensation plan

LONDON (R) — The Abu Dhabi majority shareholders of the scandal-hit Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) have initiated an agreement on a worldwide compensation plan, liquidators said on Friday. Brian Smouha of Accountants Touche Ross, liquidator for BCCI's Luxembourg-based parent company, said if the plan was adopted, Abu Dhabi would pay an initial \$1.7 billion and up to a maximum of \$2.2 billion to meet creditors' claims. BCCI operations were closed down by regulators around the world last July following allegations of massive fraud. Liquidators were appointed in Luxembourg, Britain and the Cayman Islands last month when courts in these countries ordered the bank to be wound up. The Abu Dhabi proposals require court approval in the three countries, where the main operations of the BCCI group were based, as well as acceptance by creditors speaking for \$7 billion. The plan could meet 30 to 40 per cent of claims.

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## France says Vatican must have say on Jerusalem

TORONTO, Sicily (R) — French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas said on Friday the Vatican should be given a say on the future status of Jerusalem, a sensitive issue in Middle East peace talks. "It is inconceivable that the Vatican should not make a contribution on this issue," Mr. Dumas told a news conference after two days of talks with his Italian counterpart Gianni De Michelis in the Sicilian resort of Taormina. Mr. Dumas said Mr. De Michelis agreed and the status of the holy city should be tackled late in the peace talks. The Vatican has never recognised Israel's annexation of east Jerusalem and its declaration of the holy city as its "united and eternal" capital.

## N. Korean ship taking Scuds to Syria

NEW YORK (R) — A North Korean cargo ship is believed to be heading for Syria carrying \$100 million worth of Scud missiles, the New York Times reported on Friday. The newspaper quoted senior U.S. officials as saying the government-owned Da Hung Ho left North Korea in early February with the missiles and was being closely watched by U.S. intelligence agencies. The newspaper said the missiles, known as Scud-2s, were an advanced version of the Soviet-designed Scud-B with a range of 360 miles (575 km). It said the new shipment, combined with a North Korean shipment of 20 missiles last year, would enhance Syria's ability to strike at any target in Israel. It quoted a military expert as saying the missiles were more reliable and accurate than the Scuds used by Iraq.

## Libya sacks information minister

TRIPOLI (R) — Libya has sacked its information and culture minister and the training minister is now in charge of the department, officials said in Tripoli on Friday. They said Ali Milad Abu Jazja had been fired and his place had been filled on an interim basis by Maatouq Mohammad Maatouq. No reason was given for the sacking.

## Iraq readies to celebrate president's birthday

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq is getting ready for a national party to celebrate President Saddam Hussein's 55th birthday on April 28. A committee charged with coordinating celebrations met recently in Salahaddin province, which includes President Saddam's birth place Tikrit, the Baath party daily Al Thawra reported. "Festivities should match the greatness of the event and the historic pioneering role of President Saddam Hussein in standing up to enemy conspiracies and vicious intentions," it said.

## U.N. agency to airdrop food into Afghanistan

ROME (R) — The U.N. World Food Programme said on Friday it would begin airdropping 200 tonnes of food this week into central Afghanistan where massive crop failures have put thousands at risk of starvation. The Rome-based WFP, the food aid arm of the United Nations, said bad roads and snow had cut off overland food supply channels. The airdrops will back up efforts by Iran, which has been shipping food into the region since November, to alleviate the critical food situation in the Shiite areas around Bamyan, Uruzgan and Wardak. The WFP said.

## Lebanese army seizes 735 kg of hashish

BEIRUT (R) — Soldiers seized 735 kg of hashish packed in tins labelled "trust in God" that were being prepared for smuggling out of Lebanon, an army statement said on Friday. It said soldiers found the drugs on Wednesday in a warehouse in the north Lebanon village of Mashta. They arrested the owner of the warehouse and his partner.

## Hizbollah resumes Katyusha attacks as Israel withdraws incursion force

KAFRA, Lebanon (Agencies) — Hundreds of Hizbollah guerrillas streamed back into two battle-scarred south Lebanon villages on Friday and fired fresh salvos of rockets at the Jewish state. Security sources in Israel, which pulled its troops back from the villages on Friday after a 24-hour search-and-destroy operation, said a five-year-old girl had been killed and three relatives wounded when a rocket hit a house in northern Israel.

They were the first direct casualties in Israel in rocket attacks launched by Hizbollah to avenge its leader Sheikh Abbas Musawi who was killed with his family in an Israeli helicopter ambush on Sunday. A Hizbollah leader who returned to Kafra with hundreds of jubilant guerrillas said the fight against Israel would continue. "We will teach them a lesson," he said, using the nom de guerre Sheikh Abu Mostadi. "The Israelis were defeated in this battle. Two dead is a big blow. We tell Israel we will continue the fight of Sheikh Abbas."

Israel hailed its 24-hour incursion as a success despite the killing of two Israeli soldiers and the wounding of three but it warned that troops would return if the pro-Iranian Hizbollah guerrillas again fired rockets on the Jewish state.

"Senior army officials hope it is clear to Hizbollah that it must stop its actions against the northern settlements," said an Israeli security source. "If not, we will attack them again and again."

But the guerrillas swiftly tightened their grip on Kafra and Yater, Hizbollah strongholds about two kilometres north of Israel's self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon.

The Hizbollah (party of God) guerrillas fired 10 Katyushas from hills near Kafra and Yater shortly after the Israeli troops, backed by 36 tanks, pulled back to Israel and its buffer zone.

Security sources in Lebanon said that salvo crashed into the 15-km deep buffer zone north of the Jewish state.

Israeli artillery and helicopter gunships pounded the area around Kafra and Yater in retaliation for that attack. The sources said later that three salvos had been fired at Israel and the buffer zone on Friday after the Israeli withdrawal.

They reported that Israel, which smashed past U.N. peacekeepers to take the two villages and surrounding hills, was reinforcing its troops and tanks overlooking Hizbollah bases in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa valley.

Security sources said that seven guerrillas had been killed and 17 wounded in the Israeli incursion. Two civilians were killed and 11 were wounded.

A U.N. spokesman said eight soldiers with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon had been wounded.

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## Arabs, Muslims condemn; West urges restraint

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Arabs and Muslims on Friday accused Israel of terrorism because of its military foray in southern Lebanon and said international law must be enforced.

Jordan condemns incursion

Jordan on Thursday condemned the Israeli incursion into south Lebanon and called on the United Nations (U.N.) Security Council to take the necessary measures to force Israel to respect its Resolution 425, calling for the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber said the Israeli aggression was a continuation of the Israeli aggressive approach, and a violation of Lebanon's sovereignty. Dr. Abu Jaber noted that the Israeli aggression was in complete violation of the U.N. Security Council resolutions which called for a total Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and for the respect of Lebanon's sovereignty.

Dr. Abu Jaber added that Israel's incursion into Lebanon exposes the Israeli position towards the peace process, and was aimed at destroying the peace process.

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## All calm in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Paramilitary gendarmes patrolled the rain-swept streets of Algiers in two-vehicle convoys during mass Muslim prayers on Friday in an unusually low-key display of security after weeks of unrest. The prayers, which have been the signal for fundamentalist unrest in past weeks, seemed to have passed off peacefully.

Fundamentalists dispersed quietly from the Sunna mosque in the major FIS bastion of Bab Al Oued. Three riot police vehicles left before prayers ended.

Algiers Radio reported calm throughout the country, now under a state of emergency imposed on Feb. 9.

Over the past two weeks authorities have sent in troops and other security forces well ahead of prayers to combat trouble.

At least 50 people were killed and 300 wounded earlier this month in clashes between Islamic Salvation Front militants demanding an Islamic state and the return of elections cancelled as the fundamentalists were poised for power.

Earlier on Friday, only occasional security patrols were seen in almost empty streets near FIS strongholds.

"I think all the people have gone on strike against war. They are scared and confused, and in any case they have no leaders now," said one native of Belcourt, where a single riot police car was stationed.

Algeria's rulers said this week 5,000 people had been interned in detention camps after being seized for suspected involvement in clashes.

Hundreds more have been arrested and taken before courts, with scores jailed for between two months and three years.

In an interview with French television on Thursday night, Mohammed Boudiaf, head of the five-man presidency, said he regretted that each Friday had brought a "mass of uncertainty" but believed "this Friday will be like all other Fridays: calm."

Mr. Boudiaf, chairman of Algeria's five-man presidency, said he hoped the recent violence in his country would end quickly and the state of emergency could soon be lifted.

"I hope that with a return to calm this emergency situation will not last," Mr. Boudiaf told French television Antenne 2.

"I hope this exceptional situation does not last and that we enter an era of democracy and debate."

Ibrahim in Saudi Arabia

Meanwhile Foreign Minister Lakhdar Brahimi, seeking financial assistance from Gulf Arab countries, arrived in Riyadh on Friday on his second visit to Saudi Arabia in less than a week.

## Israeli agents kill Gaza Palestinians

OCCUPIED GAZA (Agencies) — Undercover Israeli forces shot dead a Palestinian man in the occupied Gaza Strip who was long sought by the army for alleged armed attacks against suspected Arab informers and Israel's, Palestinians said on Friday.

Palestinians said the Israeli killed Imad Al Jhour at the Khan Yunis refugee camp when he tried to shoot at them when they raided his hideout on Thursday night. They said Jhour had been armed with two pistols.

Also Friday, a West Bank Palestinian stabbed four Soviet immigrants in a shopping street in a central Israeli town, killing one and wounding three, police said.

The assailant had nationalist motives, but apparently acted alone, police said. "He wanted to hurt Jews," said police spokeswoman Tami Paul-Cohen.

Bystanders struggled with the attacker and one fired twice with a pistol, wounding him seriously in the chest, Ms. Paul-Cohen said.

A witness said bystanders hit the assailant after he was shot. "I saw the man who had been shot lying on the ground surrounded by people hitting him so I said 'he's been shot you don't have to hit him,'" the witness, Aharon Zal, told Israeli army radio.

The assailant was arrested. The attack occurred in Kfar Saba, a town about 15 kilometres north-east of Tel Aviv.

In Qalqiya, a suspected Palestinian collaborator opened fire on other Palestinians stoning his car, killing Jamal Mahmoud Hasayen, 32. Palestinian reporters said.

The army confirmed the death, and said police were investigating.

In Gaza City, dozens of followers of the Muslim fundamentalist Hamas movement stoned troops

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## Obey says Israelis must stop settlements before loan guarantees

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The chairman of a House subcommittee took aim Friday at Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, saying the United States should not approve \$10 billion in loan guarantees to advance the agenda of Israeli hard-liners.

"I do not feel any particular obligation... to enforce the agenda of any set of Israeli politicians within their own country," said Rep. David Obey as Congress opened its first public debate on the loan guarantee issue.

While he did not name Mr. Shamir, Mr. Obey's comment was an obvious reference to the policy of the prime minister and others who view increasing settlements in the lands Israel has occupied since 1967 as the key to their nation's future.

The United States opposes the settlements as an obstacle to Middle East peace, and the Bush administration is seeking a freeze on settlement activity as a precondition to guaranteeing loans that will be used to resettle Soviet Jews in Israel.

U.S. taxpayers already oppose foreign aid and "are in no mood to support these guarantees," said Mr. Obey, chairman of the House Appropriation Foreign Subcommittee.

"If we are to move in the teeth of that taxpayer concern," he said, "we had better be sure there is an absolute and demonstrated need for the money and that it is provided in the context of (Israeli) policy that is consistent with American interests and policy."

He portrayed himself as "a skeptical loan officer on behalf of U.S. taxpayers," noting that the United States already gives aid and other benefits amounting to \$928 for each man, woman and child in Israel.

Despite that aid, Israel has increased its settlement population in the West Bank alone more than threefold since 1983, to a current level of about 104,000, he said.

Mr. Obey's foreign aid appropriations subcommittee and its Senate counterpart are the first to deal with the loan guarantees, perhaps the most volatile foreign policy issue to hit Congress this year.

Mr. Obey said he supports President Bush's efforts to get Israel first to freeze construction in the occupied territories, which the State Department defines as the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights and east Jerusalem.

Israel has asked the United States to guarantee \$10 billion in commercial loans to help build housing, roads and other facilities and provide training for tens of thousands of immigrating Jews.

## Shamir-Rabin battle begins

TEL AVIV (R) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and new Labour Party challenger Yitzhak Rabin began their fight for the June general election on Friday after each secured his party's leadership.

The differences between the two old rivals were immediately apparent, although Mr. Rabin, a former defence minister and army chief, muted his criticism of Israel's incursion into Lebanon.

Mr. Shamir, in a rhetoric-packed victory speech after his re-election as Likud leader, pledged to strengthen security and fill the "biblical" land of Israel with the world's Jews.

Mr. Rabin, buoyant after elbowing aside Shimon Peres from his 15 years at the Labour Party helm, promised to return part of that land to Arabs in return for peace.

Mr. Shamir, 76, was combative after easily fending off two Likud rivals in a vote on Thursday. He won 46.4 per cent of the ballot at a party convention, de-

The immigrants, two men and two women, were walking along a busy shopping street in Kfar Saba when the Palestinian attacked them, the police spokeswoman said.

One woman was knifed in the back and laid died of her wounds at Kfar Saba's Meir hospital, said Ms. Paul-Cohen. The other three, including the dead woman's father, were reported in moderate condition.

Police commander Asef Hefetz said the assailant was a man from Qalqiya, a West Bank town about two kilometres east of Kfar Saba.

Mr. Hefetz praised the bystanders for halting the attack. "The fact that they used the tools they lawfully hold... contained the incident a lot. He could have in this situation stabbed more people," Mr. Hefetz said.

Many Israelis carry handguns. Ms. Paul-Cohen said police deployed extra patrols in the area to prevent revenge attacks on Palestinians.

In Qalqiya, a suspected Palestinian collaborator opened fire on other Palestinians stoning his car, killing Jamal Mahmoud Hasayen, 32. Palestinian reporters said.

The army confirmed the death, and said police were investigating.

In Gaza City, dozens of followers of the Muslim fundamentalist Hamas movement stoned troops

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## Washington talks heading for showdown following Israeli military escalation

By Lamin K. Andoni

AS ISRAEL threatened to push back into Lebanon after its Thursday invasion, Arab and Israeli negotiators — scheduled to resume talks in Washington Monday — appear to be heading for the most serious showdown since the beginning of the Middle East peace process last October.

While the Arabs will most certainly demand a halt to Israeli settlements and an Israeli commitment to the principle of withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories there are no signs that Israel will budge on any of these major substantive issues.

Israel's invasion of South Lebanon on the eve of the third round of bilateral talks has been viewed by Arab officials as a clear message that Israel wants to instill its occupation of the Arab territories in the minds of Arabs as a fait accompli.

The Israeli invasion was also an indication, from the Arabs' view point, that the peace process has not and will not deter Israel from pursuing any kind of action, including the violation of the sovereignty of another country involved in the talks, that will enable it to keep the occupied territories.

Although the Israeli invasion mainly targeted strongholds of the Lebanese Shiite Hizbollah movement, the move was also a warning to both Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) that Tel Aviv will not tolerate military activities that will challenge its security interests in South Lebanon.

A combination of U.S. political pressure and constraint exercised by Syria are believed to have saved the peace process from collapsing as a result of the Israeli invasion.

The U.S. has steered away from criticising Israel but confined its statements to rejecting violence by all sides — a position that could translate, Arab analysts say, into the U.S. asking for a halt of violence on all sides at next week's talks or probably raising the issue of a

Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon. Although the recent military clashes could refocus the attention on security issues, that are supposed to be dealt with at the multilateral talks, the Arab sides are determined to prevent Israel from avoiding addressing substantive issues at the negotiating table.

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If Israel insisted on raising — whether at the talks or in the media — the issue of violence, the Arab delegations, will seek to refocus the attention on what they view as the root of the problem, i.e. the Israeli occupation of Arab territories.

Since the beginning of the peace talks Israel has avoided any public or private commitment to an Israeli withdrawal based on the principle of exchanging land for peace, as stipulated in Security Council resolutions 242 and 338.

Consequently, there is an

emerging consensus among Arab officials that if the U.S., the major sponsor of the talks, did not pressure Israel at the next round of talks to adhere to the agreed upon principles, the process is becoming meaningless.

According to well informed Arab sources, the U.S. last week implied to the Arab parties that its "quiet diplomacy" has made headway towards solving the issue of settlements and that it will assume an active role to ensure the success of the peace process. No more details were available and it remains unclear how far the U.S. is ready to go on pressuring Israel to budge.

That is not to say that most Arab officials have pinned great hopes right from the beginning of the peace process that it will lead to speedy results including Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories.

The least most Arab officials and analysts anticipated, however, was a deescalation, if not an end of Israeli practices against the Palestinians in the

occupied territories and a beginning of substantive talks based on United Nations Security Council resolutions.

What happened since the beginning of the process was exactly the opposite. Israel has practically stepped up its iron fist policy in the occupied territories, expanded settlement building, raised rejectionist rhetoric and finally went into south Lebanon after a series of air raids in which the leader of Hizbollah, Sheikh Abbas Musawi, was killed.

Although the Arab parties concerned have condemned the Israeli actions, they have not — at least so far — reacted by boycotting the negotiations. The Arab attitude, it appears, is aimed at depriving the Israelis the opportunity to get away from the peace talks without addressing the main issues at stake.

It is clear, however, that while the Arabs are pressing the issues of occupation and settlement on top of the agenda

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## Security Council urged to make Iraq improve human rights record

GENEVA (AP) — A special U.N. investigator last week urged the Security Council to increase pressure on Iraq to improve its abysmal human rights record.

"Scarcely a day passes without executions or hangings. In such a situation more condemnations are not enough," Max Van Der Stoep told the U.N. Human Rights Commission.

The former Dutch foreign minister said permanent U.N. human rights monitors in the country would offer "some protection to the thousands who are now in constant danger."

The dispatch of a monitoring team, similar to the U.N. chemical weapons inspectors coming Iraq, was one of the main recommendations in Van Der Stoep's

damning report to the commission.

The report was one of the hardest-hitting U.N. human rights documents ever published. It said the scale of violations was almost without parallel since atrocities committed by Adolf Hitler in the World War II.

Van Der Stoep, who was appointed last year as the U.N. special investigator on Iraq, spent six days in the country last month. He also met with refugees outside Iraq, some of whom still bore torture marks.

Iraq denounced the report as part of a Western-orchestrated political smear campaign.

"Iraq strongly rejects this report in detail and as a whole," Iraqi chief delegate Mohammad

Al Douri told the 53-member Human Rights Commission.

"We also reject the recommendations and conclusions reached and wish to declare that we totally question the veracity, the objectivity and neutrality of the report."

Van Der Stoep later told a news conference that Iraq's flagrant and massive rights abuses violated a U.N. Security Council resolution which last year ordered an immediate halt to Iraqi repression as it threatened international peace and security in the region.

He said an Iraqi refusal to accept rights monitors would indicate that repression would continue.

## Iraq should cooperate before sanctions lifted

MANAMA, Bahrain (R) — Iraq must agree to comply with U.N. resolutions on long-term monitoring of its arms industries before a world trade embargo is lifted, a senior U.N. envoy said before heading for Baghdad on Friday.

"I don't say it is the only prerequisite but it is quite obvious discussion of lifting of sanctions cannot be seriously entertained if Iraq does not comply ... what we are focusing on now is future compliance," Rolf Ekeus told reporters in Bahrain.

Ekeus, head of the U.N. special commission charged with scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, left for Baghdad with the first U.N. team charged with supervising the destruction of weapons production facilities.

Another 26-member team of U.N. experts also headed for Iraq to begin the hazardous task of destroying leaking chemical munitions at a damaged Iraqi bunker on Saturday.

The Security Council issued a statement on Wednesday warning Iraq of serious consequences if it did not fully comply with U.N. resolutions on eliminating its chemical, nuclear and biological weapons programmes and future monitoring.

Iraq has flatly refused to accept U.N. plans for monitoring of its weapons programmes, saying they were intrusive and violated U.N. Charter provisions on interfering in the affairs of a member nation.

Ekeus, who will spend three days in Baghdad, declined to elaborate on consequences if Iraq continued to reject U.N. terms.

"We will talk with the Iraqi leadership on what we have in mind ... I expect that they will see the daylight," he said.

"It hope that Iraq will see it is now politically isolated ... so it would be to the advantage of Iraq to cooperate," he said.

## Promised majlis first major political change in decades

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — After decades of promises, King Fahd is expected within days to announce the formation of a consultative council, the first step by the Al-Saud dynasty toward sharing its absolute power.

The king pledged during the Gulf war to establish the majlis Al-Shura, as it is known in Arabic, and hinted at a more clearly defined constitution.

Most Saudis believe the move will be the most profound change to emerge from the conflict that ended with Iraq's defeat.

The war, with the unprecedented presence of hundreds of thousands of non-Muslim troops on Saudi soil, put the Saudi leadership under new pressure for change in a theocratic society that has traditionally been closed to outsiders.

The majlis "is one of the most important effects of the war. It will make a real structural change," said Abdel Khalaq Abdul Hay, a political science professor at King Saud University.

No one expects to call what emerges democracy. But many hope for more freedom of speech and other basic rights, such as an independent judiciary. General prescriptions in the Koran, the Muslim holy book, are now considered to be the constitution.

Many Saudis hope it will ease the tension between religious

groups, who oppose liberalisation, and more secular technocrats which has escalated sharply since the war.

The king has been guarded about his plans, promising only that the announcement would come before the start of the fasting month of Ramadan Mar. 3.

Most Saudis are focussing on Monday, Feb. 24, the king's 10th anniversary on the throne.

Royal princes refuse to speculate on the changes. But Saudis think it could be anything from a small step — a council of retired officials and senior Muslim clergymen with no real clout — to the most sweeping changes in government since King Abdul Aziz Al Saud unified the desert tribes to create the state in 1932.

That could include majlis with the power to review ministerial decisions, regional councils in the governments, breaking the larger governorates into smaller, more manageable units and changes in a cabinet that has remained virtually unchanged for almost two decades.

Whatever the changes, Saudis and diplomats say it will be the first step toward turning a loose family-oriented tribal system into a formal government more suited to the kingdom's role in the world.

"Internally the biggest reform needed is to develop a more



King Fahd  
consultative political system," said Ahmed Al Taweiri, dean of education at King Saud University.

"At present, it's more personal than systemised. The coming changes will be a good first step."

King Abdul Aziz had a consultative council through the early 1950s that was gradually replaced by the cabinet. King Fahd mentioned resurrecting the body when he came to the throne in 1982.

He even had a council building constructed in Riyadh, but the assembly itself never materialised.

Fahd gave a hint of what was coming last week to the Lebanese

Arabic weekly Al Hawadeth, his only public statement.

He said Majlis members "will, God willing, be from among the elite of the citizens and of a high intellectual caliber who will help us by considering matters that need opinion and foresight."

He said that the majlis decree would be coupled with a system for the provinces, but did not indicate whether elections would be involved.

None of the Arab world's 21 states have completely free elections, although Kuwait and Yemen have announced open parliamentary votes for the fall.

Egypt and Jordan have a semblance of democracy, while Algeria is in the process of smashing the Islamic party that won the first round of its free elections.

The Al Saud power is unlimited, and many see the delay in implementing change in a reluctance by the royal family to define what it controls and where the public can have a voice.

Some of the more zealous religious groups oppose the move.

"I hope to God there will be no majlis," said a fundamentalist English teacher who would only allow reporters to identify him by his first name, Bakr.

"They'll put in secular men who will work against Islam, who want the country to be more like the United States or Europe."

## Bomb explosion kills 1, injures 19 in Istanbul

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) — A bomb exploded at Istanbul's chamber of commerce on Thursday, killing one person and injuring 19, some seriously, the governor's office announced.

Initial police and news reports put the death toll at two dead and 20 injured.

The governor's office said the explosion occurred in the basement of the Chamber of Commerce, one floor under a hall where an awards ceremony was in progress.

The chamber is located on the European coast of this city, at the mouth of the Golden Horn, an inlet of the Bosphorus straits.

Istanbul's police chief Necdet Menzir said the blast was caused by a powerful time bomb placed in an attack case.

He said several people were taken into custody.

The semi-official Anatolia news agency identified the dead victim as Nesrin Ortayakali. It did not identify her further.

Authorities quoted witnesses as saying that two people were seen planting the briefcase near

the counters at the chamber's registration office in the basement of the building.

Shortly after the explosion, anonymous calls to local newspapers claimed responsibility in the name of the outlawed Kurdish Labour Party, or PKK, and the Kurdish revenge units, another guerrilla group.

The minister of customs and finance, Sumar Oral, was scheduled to attend the ceremony. But he switched plans to attend a cabinet meeting in Ankara, Anatolia reported.

It was not immediately known whether the bomb had been aimed at Oral, officials said.

Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel condemned the attackers. "No matter who (they are) or where they originate from, our state cannot be expected to tolerate attacks of this nature aimed at our democracy," he said.

"Those who aim at destroying the atmosphere of peace and security of our nation will realise that they cannot reach their target through force, violence or terror."

Two weeks ago, four assailants killed an Istanbul state security court prosecutor, his driver and bodyguard. The incident followed the murder of four police officers in Istanbul and another officer in the southern city of Adana.

The attack in Adana was claimed by Dev-Sol. The group claimed the murders last year of several retired generals. It also claimed responsibility for attacks on three U.S. citizens in Turkey during and after the Gulf war.

Last month, a bomb in Istanbul's famed covered bazaar killed one person and wounded five others. In December, 12 people were killed in a fire caused by fireworks in a department store.

Both incidents were claimed by the PKK which has been waging a guerrilla war since 1984 for an independent Marxist Kurdish state in southeastern Turkey where the borders of Iran, Iraq and Syria converge.

More than 3,000 people, including civilians, soldiers and insurgents have been killed in the insurgency.

## Shamir re-elected party chief, now Rabin is the challenge

By Marcus Eliason  
The Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — Having won his party's nomination for prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir now faces the toughest challenge of beating war hero Yitzhak Rabin in the June 23 general election.

With Mr. Shamir's solid victory over two challengers at a party meeting Thursday night, the scene was set for an election likely to dictate the course of Mideast peace talks.

Until now, Mr. Shamir was assured by the polls of being re-elected. But Mr. Rabin's success in unseating Shimon Peres as leader of the opposition Labour Party dramatically changed the outlook.

The battle between the two Yitzhaks pits a prickly hard-line ideologue — Shamir — against the dour, pragmatic and basically dovish Rabin.

Mr. Rabin, who turns 70 on March 1, differs little from Mr. Peres on the Arab-Israeli question. He favours trading land for peace, believes Jewish settlements in the occupied territories aren't helping the process, and has promised to give the occupied Palestinian populace self-government within nine months of being elected.

Yet as a former general and the defence minister who fought the



Yitzhak Rabin



Yitzhak Shamir

### NEWS ANALYSIS

Palestinian uprising, he has enough steel in his image to appeal to the wavering Likud voters who may make the difference on June 23.

Both Yitzhaks will have to cope with disunity in the party ranks. Mr. Peres may be ousted, but he leads a large constituency reared on his epic 17-year feud with Mr. Rabin.

The discord in Likud was evident at the central committee vote that nominated Mr. Shamir. The 76-year-old prime minister won 46.4 per cent of the 2,769 votes, well ahead of Foreign Minister David Levy and Housing Minister Ariel Sharon.

But neither challenger took defeat quietly. Mr. Levy, in an emotional speech, argued that given his 31.2 per cent against the pro-Shamir party machine, he

was in fact the strongest single force in Likud. He quickly served notice that his camp would demand its share of the post-election spoils.

Mr. Sharon, also a former general, played on security, the issue most sensitive of Israelis, portraying himself as the only man capable of dealing with Arab attacks. His argument was well-timed, coming in the midst of a fresh violence on Israel's border with Lebanon.

Mr. Levy is a champion of the U.S.-sponsored peace talks, while Mr. Sharon fiercely opposes them, so Thursday's vote could be read to mean Likud sentiment is leaning to the peace

process.

But it could also reflect ethnic politics. Moroccan-born Levy's power base is among the Sephardim, Jews of Middle Eastern descent, who are a major Likud constituency.

If Mr. Rabin cannot defeat Mr. Shamir, he stands a good chance of forcing a stalemate that would leave Mr. Shamir no choice but to invite Labour into a coalition.

That happened after the tied 1984 election, and Mr. Rabin got the defence portfolio while Mr. Peres and Mr. Shamir rotated the premiership.

Mr. Shamir has little fondness for Mr. Peres, but he respects Mr. Rabin's judgment, and may let him play the role of deal-maker in logjams in the peace talks.

The Arab World would probably welcome a Rabin victory, but it will not find him a pushover. Mr. Rabin staunchly opposes the Palestinians' goal of statehood. He is willing to compromise on territory, but refuses to yield all the territories his army captured in the 1967 Mideast war.

As a former ambassador to Washington, Mr. Rabin is more attuned than Mr. Shamir to the sensitivities of U.S. diplomacy. His expertise will be useful in the difficult negotiations ahead for U.S. loan guarantees to help create jobs and homes for the Jewish immigrants pouring into Israel.

## Soldier receives \$15,000 gift from Swiss woman

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A Swiss woman who comforted an American soldier recovering from a severe injury during the Gulf war has contributed \$15,000 to help him attend college.

Gabriela Thomas first came to the aid of Army Spc. Akides Robledo in a German hospital several days after he stepped on an Iraqi land mine and lost his left leg.

"I was afraid my mother would really take it bad, as far as my getting hurt," said Robledo, 24. "She explained to me that mothers all over are the same way. They always love their children no matter what. She set me at ease."

While in the hospital, Robledo pledged to make something of his life using his mind.

"He told me, 'I still have my brain, I'll develop my brain,'" Ms. Thomas said.

Ms. Thomas decided to help him do that. She began collecting donations for Robledo's education at her antique shop.

News reports about her campaign helped boost donations. Wednesday, during a ceremony outside Brooke Army Medical Centre in San Antonio, Ms. Thomas gave Robledo a check for \$15,000.

"In spite of our neutrality as a nation, our hearts have never been neutral or alone," she said.

Robledo, who has retired from the army, said he is finally ready to return to a normal life after 14 operations on his leg and mangled left arm.

He plans to finish an undergraduate degree in political science and then use the donation from Ms. Thomas to study law at St. Mary's University in San Antonio.

The McAllen native said help from Ms. Thomas and many others helped sustain him through the ordeal.

## U.N. envoy to visit Libya on air crashes

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Secretary-General Boutros Ghali Friday was expected to send an envoy to Libya with a message asking Colonel Muammar Qadhafi to clarify his position on two airline bombings, a U.N. spokesman said on Thursday.

Mr. Ghali, an Egyptian, is evidently making a last-ditch effort to head off threatened sanctions against Libya planned by the United States, Britain and France.

Vasily Safronchuk, the under-secretary general for Security Council Affairs, will carry the letter from the secretary-general seeking "further clarification of previous Libyan proposals to solve the controversy," he said.

Mr. Safronchuk will arrive in Tripoli on Saturday and is "tentatively scheduled" to meet Col. Qadhafi, he added.

The United States and Britain have demanded Libya hand over two agents under indictment for the midair bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, in December 1988 in which 270 people perished. France

wants Libya to produce four agents for an investigation on the bombing of a French UTA airline in September 1989 over Niger which killed 171 people.

Libya earlier this month said it would cooperate with France through the proper mechanisms but no one was certain if this meant the agents would be allowed to appear before an investigating magistrate in Paris.

On the Lockerbie crash, Col. Qadhafi said he wanted Mr. Ghali to create a "mechanism" for U.S. and British demands.

Mr. Ghali was expected to ask whether mechanisms meant the United Nations should take custody of the accused before turning them over the countries involved. If this were not the case, he was expected to say that Libya's proposals fell short of council demands, diplomats said.

Mr. Safronchuk is expected to remain in Libya no more than three days, thereby forcing an immediate reply or returning to say there was no response, diplomats said.

Judge threatens to resign  
Meanwhile, the judge heading

Libya's investigation of the Pan Am Flight 103 bombing said Thursday he will resign, possibly ending Tripoli's inquiry.

Supreme Court Judge Ahmed El-Tahir Al-Zawi said his decision was prompted by questions about his integrity. British and U.S. refusal to provide evidence, and Libyan government attempts to circumvent the judiciary and reach a compromise to avoid U.N. sanctions.

Mr. Al-Zawi said in an interview he doubted another judge would accept the post. He added his departure could effectively end the Libyan investigation.

Britain and the United States have accused two men identified as Libyan intelligence agents of the December 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103. They demand Libya surrender the men for trial or face U.N. sanctions.

Libya, which has no extradition treaty with the two countries, has refused to hand over the suspects.

Tripoli presents its investigation as proof it takes the accusations seriously. The judge's resignation could undercut its campaign to forestall sanctions.

## Incidents against Arab-Americans increase, report says

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hate crimes against Arab-Americans increased dramatically in 1991, largely because of the Gulf war, the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee said Thursday.

The report followed a similar survey by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, which logged a record number of anti-Jewish incidents during the year. The group also linked a surge in incidents to the war.

The Arab group listed 119 hate crimes last year, compared with 39 the year before.

"A dramatic increase was recorded in acts involving actual physical violence such as arson, bombings, and physical assaults as Arab-Americans again became convenient scapegoats for a small minority of individuals seeking to

vent their fears and frustrations," said Albert Mokhiber, committee chairman, at a news conference.

Mr. Mokhiber, a Washington area lawyer who says four generations of his own family fought with U.S. forces, said there is concern that renewed Arab-Israeli violence in Lebanon could lead to more hate crimes against Arab-Americans.

He said that perpetrators remained unknown in nearly all of the incidents. Of 70 cases investigated by authorities last year, only one was solved, he said.

Incidents listed in the report range from minor vandalism and threatening phone calls to the bombing of businesses and homes owned by Arabs.

Mr. Mokhiber offered no statistical comparison of incidents involving the 2.5 million to 3

million Arab-Americans with any other group.

The Anti-Defamation League report, released Feb. 6, accounted for 1,879 anti-Jewish incidents, an 11 per cent increase over its 1990 report.

The Jewish-American population is estimated at 6 million, which would indicate far more incidents per capita against Jewish-Americans than Arab-Americans. It was not clear, however, whether both groups used the same criteria for listing incidents.

Hate crimes are defined by the U.S. Justice Department as crimes against a person or property which are motivated by the offender's bias against a group, based on such distinctions as race, ethnic origin, religion or sexual orientation.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO  
18:00 ..... Les Tortues Ninja  
18:30 ..... La Famille Fontaine  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Varieties  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... American Funniest Home Video  
21:00 ..... Encounter  
21:30 ..... Stamp of Greatness  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:30 ..... French feature film

### PRAYER TIMES

05:01 ..... Fajr  
06:20 ..... (Sunrise) Dhuhr  
11:59 ..... Asr  
14:53 ..... Maghreb  
17:28 ..... Maghreb  
18:38 ..... Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifeth.  
Tel. 632785.  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.  
632785.  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

### Church of the Annunciation Tel.

637440.  
De la Salle Church Tel. 641757  
Terra Nova Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
623541.  
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel.  
626543.  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel.  
771331.  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.  
775261.  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.  
Assumption International Church Tel.  
683226.  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.  
811295.  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-  
Day Saints Tel. 624024, 654932  
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691.

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of  
Meteorology.  
It will be partly cloudy and relatively  
warm. Winds will be southerly moder-  
ate to fresh, causing dust in desert  
areas. In Aqaba, winds will be southerly  
fresh and seas high. Min./Max. temp.

### Amman

7 / 18  
Aqaba 21 Humidity readings:  
Amman 90 per cent, Aqaba 20 per  
cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN:  
Dr. Abdul Aziz Taboun ..... 783708  
Dr. Mohammad Abbadi ..... 778959  
Dr. Abdul Wahab Awad ..... 846070  
Dr. Bassam Faradisa ..... 796200  
First pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdous pharmacy ..... 778352  
Al Asma pharmacy ..... 637055  
Nairouth pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yaacob pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shamsi pharmacy ..... 637660

IRBID:  
Dr. Mazbah Al Rashid ..... (—)  
Al Sharaa pharmacy ..... (278525)

### ZARQA:

Dr. Issa Al Omari ..... (—)  
Khalaf pharmacy ..... 965417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ..... 637111  
Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Rescue ..... 630541  
Public Security Department ..... 63021  
Hotel Complaints ..... 602800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage  
Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information  
(Directory assistance) ..... 621  
Overseas Calls ..... 610230  
Central Amman Telephone  
Exchanges ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111

### Water Authority

680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power  
Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 86-53200  
Queen Alia Intl. Airport ..... 86-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. .... 642816  
Abdullah Maternity, J. Amn. .... 642412  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Mafrah, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shamsi ..... 641714  
Shamsi Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Al-Musharraf Hospital ..... 6672279  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 6612157  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 661646  
Italian, Al-Muhajira ..... 771013  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 7751126  
Army, Marka ..... 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 60224020  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... 09/983323  
Zarqa Catholic Hospital ..... 09/900560  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... 09/986732  
Al Hikma Modern Hospital ..... 09/909090

### IRBID:

Princess Beama Hospital ..... 02/275555  
Great Catholic Hospital ..... 02/272725  
The Al Nafes Hospital ..... 02/247100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... 03/314111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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Jordanian (RJ) information depart-  
ment at the Queen Alia International  
Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it  
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### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
(Terminal 1)  
06:00 ..... Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Doha (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Athens (RJ)  
06:30 ..... New Delhi (RJ)  
06:45 ..... Karachi, Dubai (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

12:00 ..... Sanaa (TY)  
13:10 ..... Rome, Beirut (AZ)

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## U.N. official expresses confidence that Kuwaitis will help Gazans; tours camps

**Bu Nur Sati**  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A senior United Nations official expressed confidence Thursday that the Kuwaiti government was concerned over the problem of thousands of Gazans who hold Egyptian laissez-passer and are facing deportation from the emirate.

The U.N. official also toured refugee camps in Jordan and pointed out the problem of absorbing returnees' children into UNRWA schools.

Although the official did not receive any pledge from the Kuwaiti officials, he affirmed that the (Kuwaiti) government took the matter seriously. "This government is fully aware of the sensitivity of the question," said Ilter Turkmen, commissioner general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA).

Mr. Turkmen, who had discussions with Egyptian officials on this matter earlier in September, told a press conference that: "I hope there will be no developments that will affect negatively on these people."

The problem of Gazans is that they have to leave Kuwait in line with a de facto expulsion policy adopted by post-war Kuwait, but they do not have entry permits to Gaza issued by the Israeli occupation authorities. Egypt refuses to allow entry to Gazans except those who carry Israeli permits.

The commissioner-general arrived in Jordan Thursday from Kuwait, one of the important donor countries for UNRWA, where he held talks with officials. "I took advantage of this visit to discuss the recent information on the Palestinians still remaining in Kuwait," he said.

According to Mr. Turkmen,

there are still some 50,000 Palestinians in Kuwait. After Kuwait was liberated, around 57,000 Palestinians left the country. "There are no immediate steps (being taken) at present" to resolve the Gazans' plight, he said.

However, "Their residence status will continue after May 1," he added. "The Kuwaiti government indicated that no one will be expelled and those who cannot find employment will not remain."

UNRWA's budget deficit, including its emergency budget, totalled \$300 million last year. "For the moment," he said, "we have solid pledges from most of the donor countries." The amount expected is to the tune of \$300 million, he said.

The European Community recently pledged to donate \$16.7 million for a 232-bed hospital in the southern part of the Gaza Strip. The total cost of the hospital is estimated to be \$35 million.

In Jordan, Mr. Turkmen held talks with UNRWA officials and toured a number of Palestinian refugee camps in the Kingdom.

Last month, Mr. Turkmen appealed to the international community for an extra \$4 million in aid this year to provide for Palestinian Refugees living in Jordan. The extra fund is essential to cover the cost of expatriate children's education in UNRWA schools," he said.

Jordan's school population has increased by 7,000, according to Mr. Turkmen.

UNRWA, which released its 1992 regular budget totalling \$572 million, last month said most of the allocations will go to educational services.

Mr. Turkmen was scheduled to hold talks with the Palestinian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations Friday. "We

have to follow closely these negotiations. In a sense, it is related to our daily activities," he said.

The UNRWA official, who said he would like to find out the Palestinian delegation's perception of the situation and their future outlook on the peace process, told the press that "the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has not improved since the negotiations began."

He added that "the beginning of the peace negotiations should be accompanied with a relaxation of detentions and deportations — this will facilitate the peace process."

Meanwhile, the commissioner-general deplored Israeli air raids on two Palestinian refugee camps in southern Lebanon which took place in the early hours of Sunday. "We have no privileged information but (the attacks) are very regrettable. We deplore these attacks," he said.

A U.N. press release stated that UNRWA sources had confirmed that four civilians were killed and 10 were wounded in the attacks. Sites in Ein El Hilweh and Rashidieh camps were bombed and refugee shelters also suffered extensive damage, the report found. Ein El Hilweh camp is located south of Sidon and houses 34,000 Palestinian refugees. Rashidieh camp, with a refugee population of 20,000, is located south of Tyre.

Concerning UNRWA's future plans, Mr. Turkmen said that much depends on the failure or success of the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations and the situation in Lebanon and the occupied territories. "It is difficult to have future plans in the Middle East," he said. "We try to adapt to emergency situations as they come along."

## Crown Prince reiterates Jordan's stand vis-a-vis Palestinian problem

ORANGE COUNTY, California (Petra) — Jordan has always sought a just and honourable solution to the Palestinian cause and has always believed that the Palestinian problem is the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has said.

In an address delivered on his behalf by the chief Jordanian negotiator to the Middle East talks, Abdul Salam Al Majali, before the California-based International Affairs Council on Wednesday, Prince Hassan said no settlement of the region's pressing problems can be reached without achieving tangible and practical progress through peaceful means.

Palestinians living under Israeli occupation, the Crown Prince said, are deprived of the basic material and immaterial characteristics needed for the development of individuals and groups, protecting human rights and achieving the spirit of political unity which expresses the basic responsibilities of any country claiming that it works for the interests of those living in it.

He said stones were the only means through which the Palestinians could express their rejection of the deteriorating living conditions.

Prince Hassan said the intifada came as a reaction to curfews, limiting the movement of individuals, discrimination in the fields of work, differences in salaries, the living conditions and the absence of Palestinian political institutions and representatives of the people.

Following are excerpts from the Crown Prince's speech:

"Between Palestinians and Israelis, the insecurity of property rights, the absence of Palestinian political institutions or representative bodies, have all created a situation in which the intifada — children throwing stones against the Israeli army — has become the Palestinians' only political expression of their rejection of the conditions under which they are presently living."

"Recent events in the Gulf demonstrated that the idea that security could be achieved through the acquisition or development of weapons of mass

destruction, or through the retention of territories occupied on the ground of strategic importance or historical right is invalid. When attacked by missiles Israel was restrained from retaliation by political considerations imposed by an international situation which took precedence over regional conflict; and its occupation of territories taken from Jordan in 1967 did not protect from the missiles which flew overhead to reach Tel Aviv and Haifa."

"Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which are the framework within which Jordan, Israel and the Palestinians have agreed to negotiate their conflicts lay down a broad schema for their resolution in which there are three main constituents: The unacceptability of acquisition of territory by force, the right to self-determination, and the right of every state in the area to live within secure borders. Although certain linguistic ambiguities were deliberately inserted in the English text its real meaning is clear: Firstly, the territories occupied by Israel in the 1967 war — namely the West Bank including

Jerusalem, Gaza and the Golan Heights, should be returned to the states from which they were taken. Secondly, the right of the Palestinians to self-determination should find a political and institutional expression. Thirdly, Israel and its neighbours all have an equal right to security within defined and internationally recognised frontiers ...

"Were I to tell you today that an individual had expressed the view that the construction of settlements in the occupied territories constituted the gravest threat to the continuation of the peace process, you would probably conclude that this individual was an Arab. Yet the individual of whom I speak is the executive director of the American Jewish Congress. He met last month with the Israeli prime minister and informed him that his group, as well as the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, felt it unreasonable for Israel to continue the construction of settlements in the occupied territories while expecting to receive housing loan guarantees from the United States. He added: "Even if there

were no issue of Soviet Jews and housing guarantees, there are a lot of American Jews who see this as a historic moment and feel it would be tragic if settlements destroyed the peace process."

"In essence, our vision is of a Middle Eastern Helsinki process. A full fledged conference on security and cooperation for the Middle East. We believe that such a model can eliminate the political economy of despair. Democratisation, freedom of expression, human rights and greater awareness of a reliance on the political, legal and economic dimensions of security can provide a route towards the alternative political economy of peace, security and progress. In short, a sustainable future."

"Jordan has entered into the current bilateral and multilateral negotiations with the hope of rectifying this deplorable situation, and in order to address in a constructive way both regional consequences of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and other regional problems which are contributing to instability in the Middle East."

## Jordan Design and Trade Centre to participate in New York fair

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Design and Trade Centre (JDTTC) of the Noor Al-Husseini (NHF) Foundation will participate in the New York International Gift Fair which begins Sunday and runs through Thursday, according to an NHF statement.

The centre will be showing several new pillow lines that are made by embroidery groups in Jerash, Al-Nuzha, Hal Amir Hassan, Hal Hamdan and by independent designers Lina Lama and Samia Zary, the statement said. The New York gift fair is considered one of the largest international commercial trade shows and takes place in February and August every year. Approximately 25,000 retail and mail-order buyers are expected to attend, according to the statement.

JDTTC will be represented in New York by design coordinator Hana Rihani and technical trainer Nuh Mansour. The show will give them the opportunity to meet directly with buyers to hear their comments on JDTTC products and to learn more about the U.S. market, the statement said.

The New York fair will be the first trade show where JDTTC will begin selling directly to commercial buyers rather than through intermediary distributors. Following the show, JDTTC representatives will be travelling to Connecticut, California, and Washington, D.C. for further market orientation and for technical training.

They will visit decorator, gift, and home furnishing showrooms, department stores, and design studios and will get oriented with the latest skills in dyeing, spinning and weaving that will then be passed on to the many projects (JDTTC) supports throughout Jordan, the statement said.

JDTTC also expects to participate in the National Floor Covering Market and National Oriental Rug Show in Atlanta in July and in European trade shows in Paris and Frankfurt later this year and in early 1993, according to the statement.

The Jordan Design and Trade Centre was established by the Noor Al-Husseini Foundation in 1990 as part of the National Handicraft Development Project to revitalize handicraft production through a business-oriented approach that focuses on market expansion. With the primary objective of creating jobs, the centre currently supports over twenty producer groups in product development, marketing, and technical and management training.

## Local efforts key to protecting environment, officials say

AMMAN (Petra) — A week-long workshop on the protection of environment, organised by the Jordanian Society for the Control of Environmental Pollution in cooperation with the German Friedrich Maumann Foundation, concluded here Thursday with a call for a community-based action to protect the environment.

The workshop, which was inaugurated by the society's president, Ahmad Obeidat, stressed the importance of reviving action at the community level and for exerting every possible effort to change individual patterns of behaviour with a view to safeguarding the environment.

The workshop called for finding immediate and proper solutions to environmental problems by protecting agriculture and water resources from pollution. It also called for the best use of such resources.

It noted the importance of international cooperation in this regard and emphasised the need to utilise science and technology to achieve this. The workshop is a chain in a series of dialogues, meetings, conferences and workshops aimed at promoting environmental awareness, sensitising the public to environmental issues and finding solutions to put an end to pollution.

Both Mr. Bilbeisi and the kindergarten principal voiced appreciation to the Queen and thanked various local and international organisations which extended assistance to the CPF to enable it to carry out this vital project.

They expressed hope that similar projects could be carried out in the other regions.

He said palsy refers to the inability of the child to use his muscles properly so his mobility becomes retarded. Cerebral means that the cause is the affected brain. The injury can happen during pregnancy, at delivery or after birth, especially during the critical post-natal month, according to CPF officials.

Both Mr. Bilbeisi and the kindergarten principal voiced appreciation to the Queen and thanked various local and international organisations which extended assistance to the CPF to enable it to carry out this vital project.

They expressed hope that similar projects could be carried out in the other regions.

## CPF opens kindergarten in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF) has opened its first kindergarten in Amman for children with cerebral palsy conditions and is planning to open another one in Karak in the next two months.

Her Majesty Queen Noor opened the kindergarten in Amman at a ceremony held Thursday with the attendance of CPF Director Fakhri Bilbeisi and other officials. The Queen listened to a briefing on the kindergarten services and the care offered to the children. The new institution has three classrooms for special education to be offered to 28 children with cerebral palsy conditions in the initial stage, according to Mr. Bilbeisi. He said that the kindergarten services will pave the ground for these children to attend normal schools.

Thousands of children are now benefiting from the services of the CPF centres in Amman, Zarqa, Irbid, Aqaba and Salt. The foundation is in need of constant support and contributions to offer humanitarian services to the children, Mr. Bilbeisi noted.

According to Mr. Bilbeisi, Jordan now has at least 10,000 children with cerebral palsy, and its annual functions like the CPF Walk held in October are designed to raise funds to finance CPF operations.

He said palsy refers to the inability of the child to use his muscles properly so his mobility becomes retarded. Cerebral means that the cause is the affected brain. The injury can happen during pregnancy, at delivery or after birth, especially during the critical post-natal month, according to CPF officials.

Both Mr. Bilbeisi and the kindergarten principal voiced appreciation to the Queen and thanked various local and international organisations which extended assistance to the CPF to enable it to carry out this vital project.

They expressed hope that similar projects could be carried out in the other regions.

## Jordan to import 410 tonnes of canned, frozen food

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is to import 400 tonnes of canned vegetables and fruit and frozen food commodities in the next two months to make up for the shortages of fresh vegetables resulting from the floods and the frost that affected vast areas of the Jordan Valley Region.

The decision was taken by the Ministry of Agriculture upon directives from Prime Minister Saeed Zaid Ben Shaker, according to a report in the Al Ra'i Arabic daily Friday.

Licences for imports have been already issued and consignments would be forthcoming in March and until the end of April, the report noted.

The move was taken in view of the coming month of Ramadan during which consumption of foodstuffs normally increases. Minister of Supply Mohammad Saqqaf said earlier this week that housewives should turn their attention to canned and frozen

products to compensate for shortages resulting from the poor supplies coming from the Jordan Valley region. He said sufficient canned and frozen products would be made available during Ramadan, due to begin by March 6.

The new decision was welcomed by Elias Nuqul, president of the Foodstuff Merchants Association in Jordan, as a step to help provide badly needed food commodities to consumers.

He called on the government to allow merchants to continue their imports of canned and frozen commodities until the end of June to allow for more merchants to import food.

Noting that customs duty on such imports could reach 55 per cent as a rule Mr. Nuqul called on the concerned authorities to reduce the tariff so that such products could be purchased by limited income consumers.

## Sport, youth contributions to increase, minister says

RAMTHA (Petra) — Youth Minister Saleh Irshaidat Thursday said his ministry would increase annual contributions to sport and youth clubs and update the rules governing the sports federations.

At a meeting with youths and people representing the sports federations in Ramtha District, Dr. Irshaidat stressed the importance of sports as a major factor for achieving genuine development because it reflects on the various aspects of life.

Dr. Irshaidat emphasised the importance of constructing closed sports halls and pointed out that several such halls would be set up in the various parts of the Kingdom in cooperation with the Education Ministry.

Ramtha District Governor Mohammad Al Amad reviewed the sports activities in the district



Saleh Irshaidat

and noted the important role Ramtha Club plays in developing sports in the district as well as its representation of Jordanian soccer in the Asian Soccer Tournament.

The Ramtha club secretary spoke about the need to construct a closed sport hall in Ramtha, to provide support for clubs in the district. He said work on Ramtha stadium and improve other existing playgrounds.

## Japanese traditional music impresses children, parents

**By Saeda Kilani**  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — It is true that Japanese traditional music is unknown to many Jordanians, even to music lovers and experts. However, the spontaneous spectators' high response to the Japanese concert held on Wednesday at the Royal Cultural Palace has not only left its impact in the hearts of many Jordanians, it has also amazed the Japanese themselves.

"The response that came from the Jordanian audience was really unexpected," commented Hajimi Tanaki, a councillor at the embassy of Japan, at the end of the concert. "It was really a pleasant atmosphere and I think the group will go back with good souvenirs."

Most of these souvenirs will probably be due to the fervent participation and the quick reaction of children who comprised a large number of the two-hour Japanese percussion ensemble's audience. Moreover, it seemed more like children dragging their parents to the concert than the other way round.

"It was through my children's insistence that I came," commented a mother of two children. "And it was through their joyous jumping, dancing and singing that I felt the essence of music — I really loved it."

However, not many parents were able to get bold of their children's sometimes sudden reaction and uproar. At the time, the invitation came forward "when I (count) five... please feel free to come up onto the stage and beat drums for yourselves" — children didn't wait to get the O.K. from their parents.

"Children's memories are fresh," commented Hiroshi Koike, the cultural attaché at the Japanese embassy. "The drums' beating, especially certain kinds of drums that represent the Japanese spirit, is very close to the heart beading and the children feel it deeper than others."

The Japanese percussion ensemble, "Japanese Sounds, Vital Pulsation," which was

attended by Their Royal Highnesses Prince Raad and Princess Majida, was aimed to present the essence of Japanese drumming. Jundo Ranzen, the leader of the group and the master of solo performance on the large drum (wadaiko), is considered as one of the finest players of this instrument in Japan.

Concluding a tour in many Arab countries, Mr. Ranzen, together with his group, the "Kyu," were impressed by the Jordanians' response to the concert.

"It was the best, it was the best," he said in comparing the Jordanian audience to the Arab spectators. "I look forward to cooperating with Jordanians in this field."

Mr. Ranzen, who is currently involved in training a new generation of Japanese traditional drummers, continues to play a role in transmitting to future generations the music of traditional Japanese drums.

"I would be very much interested, if opportunities allowed, to train Jordanian drummers," he said enthusiastically.

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### Ministers tour Jordan Valley

SOUTH SHOUNEH (Petra) — Minister of Communications Jamal Al Saraiher and Minister of State Sultan Al Adwan Thursday paid an inspection visit to the central Jordan Valley area where they inspected postal and telephone services and were briefed on the needs and demands of people in the district. The demands included the establishment of a telecommunication department, expanding the telephone network and opening new post offices in some areas.

### Arbor Day celebration held

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ben Al Hussein and on the occasion of Arbor Day, the committee of the Bisharat Golf Course, in cooperation with Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental, held a celebration which was attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Muna, several officials and diplomats and members of the golf club. Inter-Continental personnel participated in the celebration by planting an olive tree as a symbol of love and peace.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ☆ Art exhibition by Spanish artist Saad Escheiri at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ☆ Exhibition of paintings by Shakir Hasan Al Said at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery (10 a.m.-5 p.m.)
- ☆ Exhibition of photographs on Goethe-Forest, between Tafleeh and Shobak, at the Jordan University for Women.
- ☆ Graphic art exhibition by Sadik Kwaish at Bakadna Art Gallery, Gardens Street.
- ☆ Exhibition of photos depicting historical and archaeological sites in Jordan at the Royal

### Cultural Centre.

### THEATRE

- ☆ Arabic play entitled "Who's There?" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8 p.m.

### LECTURE

- ☆ Lecture, in Arabic, entitled "The Contemporary Arabs: An Attempt for a New National Vision" by Dr. Issam Nu'man at the Scientific and Cultural Centre of Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation — 6 p.m.

### SYMPOSIUM

- ☆ Symposium on air pollution, organised by the Jordanian Society for the Control of Environmental Pollution, at the Goethe Institute.

## House approves exchangers draft law

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament Thursday approved the draft law on money exchangers for 1990 after amending some of its 32 provisions.

The draft law was prepared to correct the malpractices carried out by some exchanging houses. The draft law delineates the legal framework of the money exchange profession, sets out the minimum paid capital and terms of reference of such exchange offices and houses.

The draft law also gives broader terms of reference to the Central Bank of Jordan to monitor the offices' work and includes provisions set to organise the exchange works even during difficult financial situations.

It also sets out legal penalties and deterrent measures to stop any violations of the law.

## Open Systems — The next step in computer evolution?

**By Jean-Claude Elias**  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A conference organised by Gulf Business Machines (GBM) Jordan was held Wednesday at the Plaza Hotel on what is probably the hottest topic in the computer world today — open systems.

GBM, IBM representative in the area, had invited Steve Bateman, from IBM's European Open Systems Centre manager in London, to present the subject. The aim of the one-hour lecture was to introduce to the open systems concept to a group of businessmen, executives and Electronic Data Processing (EDP) managers. Mr. Bateman succeeded in doing so and captured his listeners' attention from start to finish, one audience member said afterward.

Introduced by Fayez Kndsi,

president of the Jordan Computer Society, and Omar Halawani, GBM's manager in Jordan, Mr. Bateman rushed but with impressive style and efficiency into the presentation of a somewhat elusive subject which could prove to be vital for the computer industry and users alike before the turn of the century.

Simply put, open systems is the possibility that computer users will have to move — transport — their work (data, programme, applications, utilities, formats, etc...) from one machine to the other without having to change a bit — literally — in it, and still see it run correctly and with the same performance level.

From one machine to another means from any manufacturer, any model and any size: whether PC — personal computer — mini, main frame, Apple, IBM, Olivetti, NCR.

A dream? Perhaps, but this is what the future of computing is about.

A small part of this dream has been around for a little less than 10 years now with Microsoft MS-DOS (Disk Operating System), which gives PC users this portability of data and programmes and is, up to a certain extent, an open system called compatibility. The industry however is aiming at a much wider scope than PCs.

Mr. Bateman explained that open Systems standards have not been fully or accurately defined simply because it is a long and interactive task which will take many years to implement. It also requires coordination between all major manufacturers: IBM, Olivetti, Wang, DEC, Fujitsu and others, he said. It is also a process which will be implemented step-by-step and not all of a sudden, Mr. Bateman added.

The consequences of a successful journey to open systems might bring a new revolution in the way computers have been used so far, he said.

Mr. Bateman explained that in the 1960s computers were merely used for large members crunching, military applications and population census. In the 1970s, major companies and organisations started using computers as management tools. The 1980s brought computing power to each and every one with the PC, he said. The 1990s are supposed to let all these users communicate and exchange information painlessly, on time, and with relatively little added investment, he added.

Mr. Bateman said that compared to the typical economic model illustrating the lifetime of a given product, computer technology was still in its infancy.



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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## When reverse is possible

THE LATEST Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon will make the next round of peace talks between Israel and the concerned Arab parties that much more difficult. Coming as it did, on the heels of the premeditated killing of Hizbollah leader Abbas Musawi, along with his wife and son, last week, and the well calculated detention of two members of the Palestinian delegation to the Washington peace negotiations, the recent massive Israeli incursion deep into Lebanese territory is bound to set the stage not for accommodation between the negotiating parties but rather for confrontation.

To begin with, the parties, instead of delving into substance after a series of ineffectual meetings between them ever since the talks were launched in Madrid last year, will no doubt be locked in an acrimonious debate about the recent events and developments rendering in the process the reaching of substantive discussions on the heart of the matter almost impossible.

The latest round of violence appears to have been initiated by those in the Israeli government who wanted Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir reelected to the Likud leadership. Having been in the midst of elections about the future leadership of his party, Shamir must have sought to sound and act tough in order to pull the carpet from under the feet of Ariel Sharon who was also vying for the leadership. Foreign Minister David Levy offered little competition against his incumbent leader Shamir at this stage of the political game and he said so in no many words. So the eyes of the Israeli electorate within the Likud constituencies were focused on Shamir versus Sharon. The latter evidently was capitalising on the death of the three Israeli soldiers last week and other similar events was counting on his massive campaign to colonise the West Bank and Golan Heights in a bid to create irreversible facts and turn the de facto annexation of these Arab territories into de jure annexation in due course.

Meanwhile, the Arab delegations to the upcoming peace round are running up against formidable odds. The Arab side has yet to achieve unity of purpose and strategy in spite of all the rhetoric that all is fine in the Arab house. The Arabs broke ranks in the past and they may still do so in the future given the disarray that dominates the Arab scene from the Atlantic to the Arab Gulf. Against this background, what can be expected to emerge from the approaching peace talks remains an open question. On balance, however, the Arabs have no choice but to give the peace process another chance simply because they have run out of viable options for the time being. It is a sad state of affairs that has to be somehow reversed — if at all reverse is possible.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE WAR in South Lebanon has been raging for some days now, with no moves on the part of the world community to stop it or to try to prevent further Israeli acts of aggression on the civilian population there, said Al Ra'i daily. The paper said that Israel has been using all types of American-made weapons, backed by war planes, to devastate the villages of South Lebanon and to kill their inhabitants only a few days before the resumption of the Middle East peace talks in Washington. What is more, the United States, which sponsors the talks but which continues to condone Israel's actions, has prevented any discussion of the situation in South Lebanon at the U.N. Security Council upon the request of Lebanon, claiming that such a move might jeopardise the Arab-Israeli peace talks, said the paper. It said that the Israelis are at swallowing up further parts of South Lebanon under the pretext of ensuring security for its citizens in the north of occupied Palestine and is finding in American policies an encouragement for their illegal actions. The coming few days that precede the resumption of the Washington peace talks are very serious indeed, and unless the world community moves fast enough to put an end to Israel's dangerous adventures, nothing will be left of the credibility of the so-called "new world order" and the United Nations Organisation, the paper added. It said that Israel, which has refused so far to reach peace with its Arab neighbours under U.N. Security Council resolutions, clearly does not want peace to prevail, but can only pursue the course of terrorism against the other nations of the world.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i Arabic daily expressed the belief that Jordan does not have any unemployment problem at all, but rather a problem of people refusing to take up work. Those who finished university training refuse to take up jobs now filled by non-Jordanian workers, while the government is failing to fix the minimum rate of wages so as to encourage these young men and women to take the place of non-Jordanians, said Tareq Masarweh. The writer stressed the fact that Jordanian youth can and should take the place of non-Jordanian workers and construction sites and other places of work; the government should pave the ground for them to take such jobs by restricting to a minimum the presence of non-Jordanians and by fixing the rate of wages. He said that the media and the official information services should launch a strong campaign to help the government in this effort by praising those taking up jobs as wood-workers, blacksmiths, and other tradesmen. Thousands of jobs are available, including domestic service which is now costing poor Jordan \$46 million annually in wages to Asian maids, the writer noted. He said that young men and women should not feel ashamed to take up a decent job as long as this job gives the employment and saves them from becoming a liability adding further burdens to the society.

## The Palestinians are sovereign over the occupied territories

By Pascal B. Karmy

Palestine became a state of its own after it was detached from the Ottoman Empire by the Allied powers after World War I, in accordance with the Treaty of Lausanne of July 24, 1923. Under Article 2 of the Covenant of the League of Nations, Palestine was put under the mandatory power of Great Britain, but together with the states under Category "A" Mandate it was entitled as a nation, to provisional recognition of independence, to be rendered administrative advice and assistance by the mandatory power until such time as it is able to stand alone. Thus, the mandate did not divest the Palestinian people of their sovereignty over their country.

As Dr. Henry Cattani, the international law jurist says, "the inhabitants of Palestine were deprived not of sovereignty but of its exercise. Sovereignty was latent but at the end of the mandate, in 1948, sovereignty in the people was revived."

Several international law experts concur that sovereignty over a mandated territory lies with its inhabitants. Consequently the people of Palestine became entitled to rule themselves and have the right to declare their independence. (It should be remembered in passing that at the end of the mandate, in 1948, the Palestinian Arabs counted about 1,300,000 and the Jews were about 600,000, one-tenth of whom only were part of the original inhabitants of Palestine, the rest being Jewish immigrants).

Israelis and Zionists claim that they are entitled to hold on to the occupied territories because, as alleged, they do not belong to the Arabs and Jordan has no better title in law in the West Bank than Israel. They ignore the blatant fact that the occupied territories belong to their inhabitants and are not terra nullius which is open to acquisition by any state.

And as Dr. Abdul Qader Yassin wrote, "the West Bank is not a vacuum in law or an

empty desert open for acquisition by anybody who cares to grab it by military force. The days of the old colonialism are over and in the modern law of nations, territory and people are not goods and chattels to be taken and disposed of by those who have the power to do so." See Jordan Times, January 29-30, 1987.

Thus let alone the principles laid down in Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, and particularly the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war, the occupied territories belong to their inhabitants and legal sovereignty lies with them in contradistinction to political sovereignty. And as Dr. Henry Cattani writes in his valuable book "Palestine and International Law": "A distinction therefore exists between legal and political sovereignty, the latter being factual dominion and control, and the former signifying rightful and inalienable title of a people to its territory. Such a distinction corresponds to the difference between sovereignty in law (de jure sovereignty) and

sovereignty in fact."

The West Bank and Gaza Strip were not annexed by Jordan and Egypt because the Arab states intervened in 1948 to protect the people of Palestine and to prevent the partition of their country. In effect, the League of Arab States specifically decided that the part of Palestine occupied by the Arab forces would be held in trust for the people of Palestine until the Palestine question has been finally settled. Furthermore, when the union of Jordan and Palestine was proclaimed in 1950 by the National Assembly, it provided "that all Arab rights in Palestine shall be safeguarded, that those rights shall be defended by all legal means and that the union shall not prejudice the final settlement of the Palestine question."

This proviso clearly demonstrates that the rights of the Palestinian people and their sovereignty over Palestine were presented despite the unification of Jordan and Palestine. Egypt respected its position as trustee of the Gaza Strip and had never had the

intention of annexing this part of Palestine.

Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 reinforce the above postulations that Israel has no title at all in the occupied territories and is merely an occupier. Its occupation, resulting from the use of force, is governed by the Hague rules of 1907 as complemented by the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 concerning the Protection of Civilians in time of conflict and Israel must ultimately withdraw from those territories.

In view of all the above, the Palestine National Council, which represents the Palestinian people wherever they may be and from which emanated the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), had the full right to proclaim the state of Palestine (as it did in fact in 1988), on the basis of Palestinian sovereignty and of General Assembly Resolution 181 of November 29, 1947, concerning the partition of Palestine and other subsequent United Nations resolutions relevant to the Palestine question and also

on the basis of the right of self-determination of peoples, which is recognised as a peremptory principle of law (jus cogens) as enshrined in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Israel has no right to oppose the proclamation of the State of Palestine as it had itself proclaimed a state on the basis of the above-mentioned Resolution 181. And as Dr. Henry Cattani says, "its opposition to the Palestine state is tantamount to a denial by Israel of its birth certificate."

The PLO can thus be considered as a provisional government in exile and is competent in law to undertake peace negotiations with Israel regarding the occupied territories although for political reasons beyond its control it is precluded to do so directly.

The writer was a lawyer in Palestine up to the end of the British mandate in 1948 and subsequently legal adviser in UNRWA's Beirut headquarters in Beirut and Vienna.

## Just who is in charge of Europe's security now?

By Nicholas Doughty  
Reuter

BRUSSELS — It all sounds very neat and tidy. The West is trying to build a new order for Europe that will ensure peace and stability for the post-cold war world.

But the reality of what officials like to call a "new security architecture, stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok" is proving to be rather messy and confused.

Who, if anyone, is in charge and how do all the different plans fit together?

The question is not merely one of political theory. With war in Yugoslavia and ethnic and nationalist tensions rising across an increasingly fractured continent, many are worried that new aggression in Europe will go unchallenged.

The main players are NATO, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and the European Community.

Diplomats say all of them are starting to show signs of strain under the weight of constant fresh demands on their resources and on their ability to adapt to monumental changes like the collapse of the Soviet Union.

"Vital pieces of the puzzle that

forms the new European order have yet to be carved out," Loic Bouvard, vice-president of France's National Assembly, told a recent international conference on security in Brussels.

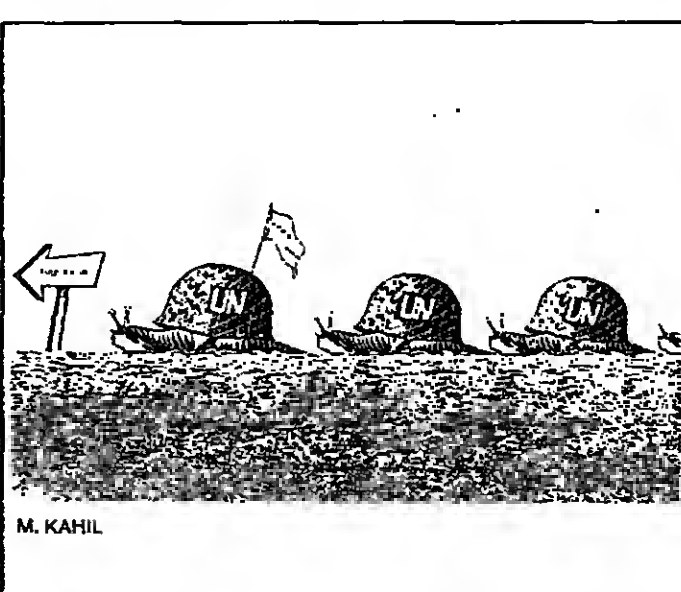
NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner told the conference that the various organisations concerned with security were not yet working together properly, so that they could draw on each other's strengths in solving crises.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation has the military muscle that may be needed to enforce the rule of international law in Europe. But the 16-nation alliance is restricted to defending its own territory and does not want to take on new members.

The European Community has vast experience in economic and trade affairs but has only recently acquired a bigger say in the political arena. It has no armed forces.

The CSCE, a forum on human rights and security issues, has the virtue of including all European and North American countries — 48 at the last count, compared with 35 just two years ago.

But it has no real mandate to act, for example with peacekeeping forces, and works mainly by



consensus. There is fierce debate about whether it should be given new powers at a meeting of its members in Helsinki next month.

In the search to beef up European security, NATO's Woerner suggested recently that the Western alliance could make its military expertise — and even troops available for missions ordered by the CSCE.

His aim is to create a series of "interlocking institutions" that will complement each other rather than compete. But critics say there are already signs of confusion.

The European Community is thinking about taking on a defence role more independent of the U.S.-led NATO alliance, a possibility that has caused some

anxiety in Washington.

NATO, worried that it might be written off as a cold war dinosaur after the Warsaw Pact collapsed, is also busy coming up with new missions.

The alliance is helping to organise the airlift of aid to the former Soviet Union and has set up a "cooperation council" that brings together foreign ministers from all of its former adversaries to discuss security questions. Similar meetings of defence ministers are planned.

The main aim of creating this new forum was to dissuade countries like Poland and Hungary from pressing for NATO membership. The alliance is wary of getting involved in far-flung conflicts and is worried that extending membership could weaken NATO's internal strength and cohesion.

The problem now, some NATO diplomats say, is that the new "cooperation council" threatens to strip the CSCE of any real significance by including all of Europe's most important military powers.

"Most of the eastern Europeans see any form of ties with NATO as far more important than the CSCE," said one senior alliance official. "If there is trou-

ble, they will come to us."

But will they be able to get anything from NATO?

The new "cooperation council" is based on deliberate ambiguity.

Mr. Woerner and other officials refuse to say what NATO might do if conflict flared between former Warsaw Pact members.

"We do not want to offer security guarantees, but we are not seen to be doing nothing," said another diplomat. "We have deliberately left the question open."

The result of all this is a new United Nations-like institution, any European institution to organise peacekeeping operations in Yugoslavia.

"It has become commonplace to speak of the 'interlocking institutions' for security in Europe," Bruce George, a British parliamentarian and defence expert, told the Brussels conference.

"The real issue, and one which governments relish in ducking, concerns whether and how these institutions can be unlocked to realise their full potential for conflict prevention and resolution in an era of post-cold war turbulence."

## THE WEEK IN PRINT

# Arabs no more surprised by Israel's constant aggression and expansionism

Reviewed by Elia Nasralla

The latest Israeli military adventure in South Lebanon, the prospects of the coming Washington peace talks, regional as well as domestic issues were given prominence in the local press in the past week.

Sawt Al Shaab said the Arabs were not taken by surprise by Israel's attack of South Lebanon, of the past few days because it had been issuing threats against the Palestinians and Lebanese resistance forces and massing troops along the border.

The Arabs are not surprised because the Shamir government has been taking every possible measure to abort the peace process and to maintain its occupation of South Lebanon and the Palestinian lands, said the daily.

Al Dustour said Israel did not even need a pretext to launch its attack because it has never concealed its evil intentions and its lust for war-mongering.

The pretext of the killing of three Israeli troops by resistance forces inside the occupied Arab lands was seized by the Israelis to launch the latest aggression on Lebanon, but the real intention is to expand Israel's influence over the Arab territory and bring all of South Lebanon under its control, said the daily.

This view is supported by Al Ra'i daily which said that such a big military operation was bound to pave the way for an Israeli occupation of new territory in South Lebanon.

The daily said that neither the U.N. Security Council nor the United States, which sponsors the Middle East peace talks, have taken any move to

halt Israel's illegal practices.

A columnist in Al Dustour said that the heroic attack by the Palestinian resistance on the Israeli troops, which triggered Israel's wrath against South Lebanon, is a legitimate action carried out in self-defence and in a bid to rid the oppressed people of occupation.

Mohammad Daoudieh said that Israel can not rest in peace while continuing its drive to kill Palestinians and, therefore, more heroic operations could be expected on the part of the oppressed people of Palestine.

His colleague in Al Dustour, Munes Al Razaz, said that the Middle East peace talks can by no means provide protection to Israel from the oppressed people of Palestine. He said that violence and occupation on the part of the Israelis are bound to draw resistance activities and counterattacks designed to end the occupation.

The Palestinian resistance groups have proved to the world that the Palestinians are not terrorists, as Israel had been claiming, but freedom fighters, seeking liberation and freedom, said columnist Saleh Al Qallab in Al Dustour.

The writer said that while the Palestinian resistance strikes at Israeli troops occupying Palestine, the Israelis carry out barbaric attacks on the civilian population in the refugee camps, killing innocent civilians.

His colleague, columnist Taher Al Udwan, said that by invading parts of South Lebanon, Israel is keeping the Middle East in turmoil and in a vicious circle of violence. But

be noted that the violence Israel was carrying out against the Arabs carries the blessings and the assistance of the United States which claim to be spearheading efforts towards peace.

The writer said that despite the peace talks and despite the fact that the Arab states directly involved in the confrontation with Israel are participating in the negotiations, the people of these countries can take no more humiliation and will only accept peace based on justice and total withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands.

While the Arab parties are making ready for the new round of bilateral talks in Washington, Israeli leaders are making ready to expand the boundaries of the holy city which they annexed by force in the 1967 war, said a columnist in Al Dustour.

Mohammad Kawash said that the mayor of Jerusalem, Teddy Kollek, has just revealed a plan for expanding Jerusalem's boundaries, a plan which entails annexing Arab lands adjoining the holy city.

This plan was unveiled only days before the resumption of the Middle East peace talks in which the Arabs are demanding the return of Arab Jerusalem as one of the main preconditions for a permanent peace, said the writer.

In view of the coming talks in Washington, Jordan is seeking to ensure a minimum level of coordination among the participating Arab parties and for this sake the foreign minister, Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber, has been holding contacts with the Syrian and Palestinian sides, said Sawt Al Shaab daily.

The paper said that the coming round of talks in Washington will be decisive and therefore closer coordination is required.

This view is supported by Salameh Ekour, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab, who said that before going to Washington there is need for a unified Arab stand. The Arabs need to speak in one voice with regard to the continued Israeli settlement programme which, they say, is a vital issue in the drive to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions.

The Arabs must have one voice especially now when the United States is contemplating the idea of granting Israel more loan guarantees with which to build more Jewish settlements, the writer said.

The talks, opening in Washington on Feb. 24, could be the last to be held in the American capital because Israel wants to shift the negotiations to another venue, said Mahmoud Rimawi in Al Ra'i daily.

He said that as the venue moves away from Washington, the U.S. administration is gradually going back on its promise of achieving peace based on U.N. Security Council resolutions in view of the coming presidential elections and in a bid to ensure more votes for President Bush.

Turning to Washington's stand vis-a-vis the Arabs, days before the resumption of the peace talks in the American capital, columnist Fahd Al Fanek said that if the U.S. administration decides after all to grant the Israelis the loan guarantees, vast amounts of money would be placed in the hands of the Israeli housing minister to build more settlements in Arab lands. Should we continue to believe what the United States administration has been advocating and its declaration that it is opposed to the settlements programme, which it describes as an obstacle to peace? asked

the writer in Al Ra'i daily.

He said that the loan guarantees are in fact a grant to Israel to enable it to continue its usurpation of Arab land and to oppress Palestinian people.

In another attack on the U.S., a writer in Sawt Al Shaab said that the Arabs should learn from what had happened to the Soviet Union and never trust the United States policies.

He said that the Soviet leaders were fooled by Washington, which promised assistance but which dealt a devastating blow ending the existence of its superpower rival.

Salameh Ekour said that the Arabs should not trust the United States, which can never allow the Arabs to rise economically, politically, or militarily and which is intent on imposing hegemony on all the Arabs, regardless of their orientation.

Turning to domestic affairs, Salameh Ekour said that Parliament deputies are failing in their duty by delaying demand that the government pass laws on political parties and press and publications.

It is regrettable to see Parliament members, many of whom are already affiliated to political groups, failing or delaying taking any action in this regard at a time when numerous plans were announced for the formation of political parties in Jordan.

We continue to see pamphlets distributed through facsimile or other methods and we continue to hear about ideas by various groups but we fail to know exactly what these groups aim to achieve and no one realises the orientation of the parties, the writer said.

He said that by issuing laws on the formation of the parties and by allowing the political groups to surface, the public

would benefit and the national interest can be safeguarded.

A columnist in Al Ra'i criticised Parliament's dealing with the question of banning liquor in Jordan, noting that the deputies have failed to discuss more important issues, like unemployment and poverty, and did not come up with solutions for such chronic issues.

The writer who identifies himself as the editor of the local affairs, said alcohol has never been an issue in Jordan and the Parliament members should turn their attention to other more important questions to serve the society.

A columnist in Al Ra'i called on the government to give due attention to compensation plans for those sustaining real damage in the past snowstorms. In particular, the government should turn its attention to the farmers and their huge losses, the debts burden and the requirements of farming, said Nazih. The writer called on the government to speed up the work of special committees tackling the question of compensation and to ensure urgent assistance to the needy people.

A columnist in Sawt Al Shaab urged the government to promote the sale of Jordanian products in Libyan markets.

Ahmad Dhiban said that the Jordanian goods are of good quality and they are very popular in Libya. As most of the goods are shipped over land through Egypt, Egyptian authorities are placing obstacles in the way so as to harm Libya and Jordan at the same time, the writer said. He said that the concerned authorities should be called upon to remove such obstacles and to try to sell Jordanian agricultural products as well as manufactured goods in the Libyan markets.



# Bush weakened, vulnerable after New Hampshire

By Steve Holland  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Pat Buchanan took a big bite out of George Bush's hide in New Hampshire in a vote that proved the president's political vulnerability and condemned his handling of the recession-bound economy.

Voting results showed Mr. Buchanan, a conservative who until three months ago was a TV commentator and newspaper columnist, had captured at least 40 per cent of the Republican vote in the first major presidential preference test of 1992.

With 95 per cent of the vote counted, Mr. Bush led Mr. Buchanan 58 per cent to 40 per cent.

So Mr. Bush won the New Hampshire primary in straight numerical terms. But it was considered by many an embarrassing political defeat for an incumbent president who a year ago was

approved by 90 per cent of Americans flush with the afterglow of the Gulf war victory.

"It's a humiliation, a repudiation of the president by his own party in a conservative state," said Larry Sabato, a political analyst and professor at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

"It's more than a wake-up call. It's a hammer blow to the head," Mr. Sabato said in a telephone interview.

Added analyst Stephen Wayne of Georgetown University: "It's like being in the first round of a fight and getting a bloody nose from somebody not even in the top rung of contenders for the crown."

And Stephen Hess of the Brookings Institution said: "It's hard to imagine any other worse scenario for George Bush."

Mr. Buchanan's feat recalled the most stunning New Hampshire upheaval of all — the one in

1968 when anti-Vietnam war Senator Eugene McCarthy won 42 per cent of the Democratic vote to 49.6 per cent for President Lyndon Johnson. That result ultimately led a crestfallen Mr. Johnson to abandon his reelection effort and leave public life.

The Bush White House clung to the notion that this president was simply happy to win the primary, that New Hampshire is a quirky state that likes to send messages to candidates and that the president will go on to take the nomination and win reelection.

"This was Buchanan's best state," said a senior Bush campaign strategist. "I don't think he'll do nearly as well on super Tuesday," which is March 10 when 11 states, many in the south, hold their primaries.

"A win is a win," added Charles Black, a Bush campaign adviser.

The New Hampshire vote nonetheless meant Mr. Bush will have to tangle with Mr. Buchanan further down the campaign trail instead of carrying on a relaxed race until the Democrats decide on their nominee in the summer.

"It's going to be nasty and rough, and Bush is going to have to spend the money he had been hoping to save for the general election. He'll also have to go negative. If he's got any smarts at all, he'll go negative very soon," Mr. Sabato said.

Mr. Sabato referred to negative campaign advertising in which a candidate attacks his opponent, often in savage terms.

Another Bush problem is that some big-name Democrats who had stayed out of the race up to this point could decide he is now vulnerable enough to take on.

Former Massachusetts Senator Paul Tsongas won New Hampshire's Democratic primary on

Tuesday with Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton second. But many Democrats see both as flawed candidates.

Mr. Bush's popularity has been in free-fall along with a slide in the U.S. economy. It took him months to admit the economy was in deep trouble, and he left the impression that he was more concerned about foreign affairs than problems at home.

New Hampshire has been particularly hard hit by the recession and the president's republican backers there said it was the worst place to start a reelection campaign.

The perception of many voters was that Mr. Bush only showed concern for the state when it was vital to his future.

"It's the impact of the economy, plus the presumption that he didn't really care," Mr. Wayne said.

Despite indications that Mr.

Buchanan was doing well there, Mr. Bush avoided mentioning his challenger's name while in the state last weekend. He tried to seem "presidential," above the fray, instead of engaging in hard-knuckle campaigning.

"I think he's been given bad advice," said Republican analyst Bill Bennett, a former Bush administration official who was referring to Mr. Bush's campaign aides. "It's about time he gave them his advice. This is serious trouble."

James Baker had long been the man who kept Mr. Bush's campaigns in focus. But as secretary of state, he has a busy travel schedule and his campaign role is virtually nonexistent.

He has been in the former Soviet Union the past 10 days.

"Somebody is going to have to pick up the reins," Mr. Hess said. "Where is Jim Baker when you need him? He's off in central Asia someplace."

Randa Habib's  
Corner

## What a 'wonderful' ban

Enraged. Our deputies have made all our dreams come true. They fulfilled all their "policies" promises in the pre-elections campaign. And not a single banner they respectively held aloft in the throes of that campaign has been left without solution. In short, they strove towards creating jobs for each and every individual, upgrading the standard of living in the Kingdom and erecting houses to dispossessed families.

As a matter of fact, high on their agenda was economic and political reform. To pursue this end, they hunted down all those who wreaked havoc to the country's administrative system, who created economic blunders and subsequently fled with the people's funds. Our deputies are unique. They have solved Jordan's outstanding crises, from the foreign debts to water shortages. They passed draft laws on "free press", general legislative elections and political parties. Thanks to them, the democratic train is still on track. Nothing would derail it. Unless, perhaps — too much alcohol.

That is why the Lower House of Parliament voted in favour of a motion to ban alcohol. This ban sealed a hectic agenda of reform after they made strides towards solving all the problems they had promised to tackle.

All this was shrouded with secrecy. For none of them ever boasted to talk for hours on a trivial matter just to appear on television. In fact, none of them would bother to be shown on the screen so as his neighbours, friends and foes alike, cousins and nephews would watch.

What is more important is that many of those who voted in favour of the motion are liberals and some of them alcohol consumers. They must have carefully weighed their options: It is either to vote in favour of the motion or against it, in contrast to their beliefs. In standing against the ban, deputies may run the potential risk of losing their respective electoral support; but if they say yes, they would still drink and anticipate a government action to rescind the ban. In other words, they expect the government to do the "dirty job" for them. How wonderful!

Randa Habib's corner will appear every Saturday.

## Washington talks heading for showdown

(Continued from page 1)

da, the Israelis have a totally different agenda. The Israelis' main declared aim is to get straight into discussing interim arrangements for the Palestinians in the occupied territories, while pressuring Arab states to practically end the state of belligerency — a condition unacceptable to any Arab government.

The real problem, as many analysts and even some officials see it, however, lies in the Arab failure to formulate clearly defined and detailed negotiating strategy.

Last week's intensive efforts have produced a broad agreement among Jordan, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Syria and Lebanon that the third round of talks should unequivocally assert the principle of an Israeli withdrawal and a halt to settlements building.

There does not seem to be, according to information available, a specific commitment to a collective Arab action by the parties involved to pull out or even to stay out if Israel did not budge.

Moreover, the Arab parties involved differ in their assessment at which point they should take a decisive action. That practically means that any of the Arab negotiating teams can decide to pull out and find itself alone.

For example, there is no agreement on an Arab practical reaction to the issue of U.S. loan guarantees to Israel.

Although all Arabs agree that a U.S. approval of the \$10 billion in loan guarantees to Israel without a freeze on settlements is a dangerous signal

that will wet Israeli appetite, they differ on whether this issue would prompt an Arab pullout.

The chances are that the U.S. will give Israel the loan attached with conditions that prevent "future growth" of the settlements. Such an arrangement will leave Israel free to continue construction of 31,500 buildings reported under way.

Many Palestinian officials consider such an American-Israeli compromise to have negative consequences as it will only practically expand the settlements further undermining prospects of an Israeli withdrawal.

However, they think that such a compromise is not certain to prompt an Arab pullout, especially if the U.S. made assurances that it will follow up on the settlement issue. Even the PLO leadership remains undecided over the issue although it is coming under pressure from within to put an end to Palestinian engagement in the peace process if settlement building continues.

The prevailing trend inside the PLO, it seems, is to press that negotiations would not move further if there was no agreement on the settlement issue. But another trend — and the PLO might accept this view if it did not pull out — is to go straight into negotiations of the interim period while insisting on a halt to settlements.

Supporters of this line argue that the autonomy model presented by the Palestinians — known as the Interim Self Government Authority (ISGA) —

is drawn in a way that makes it difficult for the process to continue without the halt of settlements.

The basis for the ISGA is the implementation of the Fourth Geneva Convention, Palestinian elections, and a phased out withdrawal of Israeli military and civil administration from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip allowing Palestinians to control their lives and lands.

A possible Israeli-Arab, or more accurately American-Arab compromise, is for the U.S. to declare its clear commitment to the principle of an Israeli withdrawal, based on the land for peace formula, and Israeli measures that would ensure the settlements would not change the Arab ownership of the lands confiscated.

Arab and Palestinian negotiators have repeatedly said or implied that the issue of settlements will determine the future of the peace process. In the next round of talks they have to determine how to redirect the negotiations in a course leading to an Israeli withdrawal. Otherwise, they have to make a decisive stand.

The Arab negotiators, might postpone their final decision until a meeting for the Arab League on March 16, when the parties involved will present their assessment of the peace process.

Meanwhile, next week in Washington, the immediate task might prove to be for the Arab negotiators to make sure that Israel does not use the peace process to cover up or distract attention from its activities on the ground, especially in South Lebanon and the occupied territories.

## Arabs, Muslims condemn

(Continued from page 1)

process, given the fact that it took place only days ahead of the start of the bilateral peace talks in Washington on Feb. 24.

A senior Iranian cleric, Ayatollah Mohammad Emami Kashani, appealed for financial help for Muslim guerrillas fighting Israeli forces in south Lebanon.

The Islamic Republic news agency, monitored in Cyprus, said Mr. Kashani "urged Muslims all over the world to help the Lebanese people with their money and their pens, and back their struggle against Israel."

Syria's Al Baath newspaper said that "any excuses by those states which are guarantors of the international charter to absolve themselves from condemning Israeli aggression are rejected."

The Arabic-language added that "Israel should inevitably be submitted to the sanctions submitted in the (international) charter."

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa described Thursday's attacks on two Lebanese villages as illegal aggression that will harm efforts to bring overall regional peace.

Egypt signed the only Arab peace treaty with Israel 13 years ago.

Morocco's Minister of State Ahmad Alaoui denounced Israel for "living and surviving only by terrorism and aggression."

Writing in a signed editorial in the daily Le Matin du Sahara Et du Maghreb, Mr. Alaoui said that "the Zionist state must respect the U.N. resolutions aimed at allowing the Palestinian people to regain their national rights and live in peace in an independent state."

### PLO blames U.S.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) blamed the United States on Friday for the operation of the Israeli army.

"The biggest responsibility is with the United States which still supports Israel, encouraging it to pursue not only its savage aggressions against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, but also its expansionist policy," the PLO executive committee said in a statement.

The PLO said the Israeli army operation in south Lebanon "is new evidence that Israel does not care at all about international

law" and threatens the peace process. It urged the heads of the Arab states to "stand against these (Israeli) aggressions and threats."

### West urges restraint

The United States and its European partners have urged Israel to exercise restraint in Lebanon but they held back from condemning the Jewish state outright for its latest military incursion.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on Thursday expressed concern over mounting violence and called on all sides to attend Middle East peace talks next week.

But State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler would not say whether Washington considered the Israeli offensive a legitimate act of self-defence.

Britain's Foreign Office urged all sides to show restraint.

"Escalating violence can lead nowhere except to fresh violence and suffering," a spokeswoman said. "These events make even more urgent the need for progress in the peace process."

Britain's Guardian newspaper was more outspoken.

It condemned the Israeli assault and launched a broadside attack against the international community for what it called double standards in respect to Israel.

"If the incident had been committed by, let us say, Iraq or Libya, international condemnation would have thundered within the hour...." it said in an editorial.

"The really glaring example of double standards is that which nods through, with only a token protest, the persistent Israeli obstruction of internationally accepted principles."

In Paris, the French foreign ministry said it was totally committed to an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon — but it too stopped short of condemning the Israeli government.

Columnist Marc Kravetz wrote in the left-wing daily Liberation on Friday that Sheikh Musawi had been a key player in negotiations to free Shiite prisoners held in Israel in exchange for the return of Israeli servicemen missing in Lebanon.

"The only real political victim of these tragic games... is Lebanon," he wrote.

## Hizbollah

(Continued from page 1)

In Kafra, shocked villagers wept amid the rubble of their homes.

"All is gone, all is gone," wailed Khadijah Hammoud, 60, beating her head with her hands after finding her home like many others in Kafra was a blackened ruin after Thursday's fighting.

"I don't have a piece of cloth to wear. My furniture and life savings were burned," she said, blaming her crying husband for hiding about \$17,000 in their bedroom mattresses.

Lebanese Minister of State Nabih Berri, head of the Syrian-backed Amal Movement whose fighters joined Hizbollah in Kafra and Yater, said the guerrilla rocket attacks should stop so as not to provide Israel with any pretext for retaliation.

Some of the thousands of residents who fled the two villages before the incursion said they were frightened to return despite Israeli-run Voice of the South radio saying on Friday they could.

Those who did return were stunned by the scale of damage. Virtually all the houses in the upper parts of Kafra and Yater were destroyed or badly damaged.

Hizbollah guerrillas, however, were euphoric and convinced they had stopped the Israeli forces invading the rest of the south.

"Even if they (the Israelis) destroy every single house, it will not weaken us, we will continue to fight," said a 19-year-old Hizbollah fighter with the nom de guerre of Abu Houra'a.

"The blood of Sheikh Abbas will not be wasted... this is only the start. The revenge is coming."

"Nothing has changed and nothing has been achieved," said a U.N. officer in south Lebanon, who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity.

"It's true that they (Israelis) have snatched the two villages, but the Hizbollahis are coming back and they're already setting up positions there," he said.

Sheikh Zohair Kanj, the party's regional operations chief, walked proudly through the Yater, shouting "God is great. The army of God has defeated the army of Satan."

But Sheikh Kanj quickly disappeared when the first of a three-shell salvo hit the village.

## Negotiators leave for Washington

(Continued from page 1)

ters. She said the two sides should work towards coordination which would allow UNRWA to band over services in the territories to an eventual Palestinian state.

UNRWA offers health and education services to over 2.2 million Palestinian refugees who fled their homes after the 1948 Arab-Israeli war that led to Israel's creation.

"The U.N. represents the will of the international community," Dr. Ashrawi said. "Therefore we are seeking a central, active and crucial role for the U.N. in a way that would allow it to be our legal reference throughout bilateral and multilateral negotiations and all political processes."

"We have tried very hard to bring the U.N. and all its institutions to the peace process," she said.

The United Nations has the role of an observer at Arab-Israeli negotiations, which began with the peace conference in Spain last fall. Israel has refused

it an active role during the talks, claiming that the world body was biased towards Arabs.

Dr. Turkmen, who arrived here Thursday, was scheduled to meet with Palestinian delegates in Jerusalem, but the meeting was shifted to Jordan in order to allow members of the PLO to attend.

Yasser Abed Rabbo, Suleiman Najjah, both members of the PLO's ruling executive committee and Nabil Shaath, a top adviser to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, participated in Friday's talks.

### China reaffirms support

Chinese Premier Li Peng reaffirmed Beijing's support for the Arab and Palestinian cause on Friday, a month after China set up diplomatic ties with Israel.

Mr. Li told a delegation of Egyptian officials China still backed "the just cause of the Arab and Palestinian people" and would participate actively in the Middle East peace process, the official new China news agency said.

## Shamir-Rabin battle begins

(Continued from page 1)

doubling of Israel's population to 10 million.

"Our goal is to... grant the people of Israel its homeland, the land of Israel, for ever and ever," Mr. Shamir said, referring to his headline nationalist philosophy of keeping and settling Jews on land occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

Mr. Shamir, under U.S. pressure, has joined peace talks with Israel's Arab neighbours but has so far conceded nothing. The slow-moving talks, sponsored by the United States and Russia, are due to resume in Washington on Monday.

Mr. Rabin, in contrast, stressed the need to freeze settlement, speed up talks with Palestinians and grant them self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"We are ready for territorial compromise, but not a return to the 1967 borders," he told the daily Yedioth Ahronoth.

"We will halt all settlement in areas of dense (Arab) population and transfer the resources to immigrant absorption and economic development," Mr. Rabin said, touching on an issue which Labour hopes to make a central plank of the campaign.

Labour accuses Mr. Shamir of endangering absorption of thousands of Soviet Jews by phoning scarce funds to settlement building.

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# Nuclear glasnost at top secret laboratories

By Carol Giacomo  
Reuter

**CHELBYABINSK, RUSSIA** — By the light of the moon, the men struggled up the icy sidewalk, then turned to pose for television cameras in this secluded corner of the Ural Mountains.

It was a very special sort of scientific picture.

For the man in the middle was the Soviet Union's top nuclear scientist, the man in the middle was the Soviet Union's top nuclear scientist, the man in the middle was the Soviet Union's top nuclear scientist.

... (text continues with details of the visit and the scientists' work) ...

# U.S.: Juveniles and the death penalty

According to international law, prisoners whose crimes were committed before their 18th birthday should not suffer the death penalty. Only seven countries worldwide are known to have executed juvenile offenders in the last 10 years; the largest confirmed number of such executions has been carried out in the United States of America. There are more juvenile offenders on death row in the U.S. than in any other country. Young people on death row in the U.S. come overwhelmingly from acutely deprived backgrounds, have been physically or sexually abused, and suffer from mental illness or brain damage. Yet in a disturbingly large number of cases, these potentially mitigating factors were never considered by the courts that imposed their death sentences. The following report from Amnesty International sheds light on the way cases of juvenile delinquency were treated by courts in various U.S. states.

On Sept. 11, 1985 the state of Texas executed Charles Rumbaugh for a crime he committed when he was 17 years old. This was the first execution of a juvenile offender in the U.S. for more than two decades. Since then, three more juvenile offenders have been executed. More than 90 juveniles have been sentenced to death in the U.S. since the mid-1970s; most have had their death sentences reversed on appeal but at least 31 others remain on death rows in 12 states across the country.

Mr. Rumbaugh was convicted and sentenced to death for murdering a jewelry store owner Michael Fiorillo in April 1975. Mr. Rumbaugh had attempted to rob the jewelry store at gunpoint and Mr. Fiorillo, aged 58, reached for his own gun and was fatally shot in the ensuing struggle.

Mr. Rumbaugh had spent most of his childhood in a series of reform schools and mental institutions; by the time he reached adulthood, his body was covered in scars from suicide attempts and acts of self-mutilation. In a letter to a pen-friend written 18 months before his execution, Mr. Rumbaugh said: "I started making mistakes at a very young age and never changed before it was too late. I was 17 years old when I committed the offence for which I was sentenced to die, and I didn't even start thinking and caring about my life until I was at least 20; Mr. Rumbaugh was 28 years old when he was executed by lethal injection.

James Terry Roach was electrocuted in South Carolina on Jan. 10, 1986. Mr. Roach was convicted and sentenced to death for the rape and murder of a 14-year-old girl, and the murder of her 17-year-old boyfriend. Mr. Roach was 17 at the time of the crime. One of his two co-defendants, 22-year-old Joseph Shaw, was also sentenced to death and was executed in 1985. The third defendant, a boy of 16, turned state's evidence and was given a prison sentence.

Mr. Roach pleaded guilty, so the case was never heard by a jury. The trial judge agreed that six mitigating circumstances were present in the case, including the fact that Mr. Roach had no previous record of violence; was emotionally immature and mentally retarded; and that he was a minor with a passive dependent personality acting under the domination of an adult ringleader (Shaw). Nevertheless, the judge sentenced Mr. Roach to death on the grounds that these factors were outweighed by the "heinousness" of the crime. Mr. Roach had been represented by a court-appointed attorney, who was later disbarred from practicing law. The Governor of South Carolina ignored appeals from Mother Teresa, former President Jimmy Carter and the U.N. secretary general, and denied Mr. Roach's petition for clemency, despite the mitigating factors and new evidence that Mr. Roach was suffering from a degenerative brain disease.

Dalton Prejean was electrocuted in Louisiana on May 18, 1990. Mr. Prejean, who was black, was convicted and sentenced to death for the 1977 murder of a white police officer. The 17-year-old offender was tried and sentenced by an all-white jury after the prosecutor used his peremptory challenges (the right to reject potential jurors without explanation) to exclude black people from the jury panel. Mr. Prejean was mentally retarded and had a history of mental illness and childhood abuse — factors which were not presented to the jury during the sentencing stage of his trial. The state governor

lacked the knowledge and experience to realise this; many were ashamed of their poverty and their parents' brutality or sexual abuse, and consequently tried to conceal the very evidence most likely to prevent them from being sentenced to death. The parents were often reluctant to disclose their own abusive behaviour, even when such evidence would be likely to help the defendant. In some cases, family members requested that histories of abuse be minimised, cooperated with the prosecution, testified against their own relatives and urged judges to impose death sentences.

## Inadequate legal representation

The defence lawyers who should have been relied on to unearth and utilise such information, both in the trial and sentencing phases of the cases, often failed to do so. Virtually all juvenile offenders came from indigent families and so were represented by court-appointed lawyers or public defenders. Despite the complexity of capital trials, many of the young defendants were assigned lawyers with little or no criminal trial experience and severely limited financial resources. Some of the defence lawyers did not investigate their clients' background or psychiatric history, and spent little time preparing their cases for trial. In at least nine of the cases reviewed by AI, lawyers handling later appeals discovered important mitigating evidence which had not been presented at the trial or sentencing hearing.

In Mississippi, the court-appointed lawyer who represented David Tokman, a 17-year-old offender, spent less than seven hours preparing the case for trial and conducted no investigation into Mr. Tokman's background.



James Terry Roach, electrocuted in South Carolina in 1986, had been sentenced to death for a crime committed when he was 17-year-old. Roach had no previous record of violence and was mentally retarded.

ground. Mr. Tokman and two older men were accused of robbing and murdering a taxi driver in August 1980. The prosecution case rested on the testimony of one of Mr. Tokman's accomplices, Jerry Fuson, who had not actually witnessed the killing. Mr. Tokman's lawyer made no effort to interview Mr. Fuson before the trial, or to challenge his testimony in court. Although Mr. Tokman was the youngest of the three accused, and had no prior record of violence, his attorney failed to contest the prosecution's assertion that Mr. Tokman was more culpable than his accomplices.

The defence counsel had not arranged an independent psychiatric assessment of Mr. Tokman, despite evidence suggesting he had a "death wish," had been abusing drugs and had been neglected and physically abused by his father. During the sentencing phase of the trial, no mitigating testimony from Mr. Tokman's friends or relatives was presented. During a later appeal hearing, relatives and neighbours testified that despite an abusive and unstable family background, Mr. Tokman was widely regarded as hard-working and considerate. Psychiatric experts testified that he had a high potential for rehabilitation. In 1988 a federal circuit court overturned Mr. Tokman's death sentence after finding that the conduct of his trial attorney was below reasonable standards and had prejudiced the outcome of the sentencing hearing. Mr. Tokman is currently awaiting a new sentencing hearing, scheduled for September 1991, at which he could again be sentenced to death.

In Texas the two court-appointed lawyers who represented Robert Carter, a 17-year-old offender, made only minimal efforts to speak to their client before trial, locate potential witnesses or present mitigating evidence. They failed to request a pre-trial assessment of Mr. Carter's mental capacity even though they apparently suspected that he might be retarded. Mr. Carter's defence counsel allowed numerous procedural errors on the part of the prosecutor to pass without objection, and some of their remarks to the jury were prejudicial to their own client. During sentencing, they did not invite the jury to consider as mitigating evidence, Mr. Carter's age at the time of the crime, the fact that he was mentally retarded and had suffered brutal physical abuse as a child, or that he had no previous criminal record.

automatically appealed to the relevant state supreme court, serious and avoidable errors on the part of defence counsel cannot always be remedied. Failure to object to jury composition, trial venue or other violations of a defendant's constitutional rights are not normally considered on appeal, even though they may have jeopardised the fairness of the proceedings.

## Sentencing

U.S. law requires all capital cases to be heard under a two-phase procedure, in which verdict and sentence are determined separately. If a defendant is convicted of capital murder during the trial phase, the court then conducts a separate sentencing hearing, usually before the trial jury. During the sentencing hearing, the defence has the opportunity to present evidence in mitigation — including testimony on the defendant's background, age, and character — aimed at justifying a prison sentence, rather than the death penalty.

The jury that sentenced Dalton Prejean to death was not informed of Mr. Prejean's history of childhood abuse, nor about his documented history of mental illness and brain damage. Shortly before Mr. Prejean was executed in 1990, one of the original trial jurors appealed to the governor to grant clemency. The juror had examined information not available at the trial, and had concluded: "I would, if I had another opportunity, vote against the death penalty in favour of institutionalisation." Under Louisiana law, the jury must be unanimous in recommending the death penalty; if even one juror dissents, the sentence imposed must be life imprisonment.

In some states juveniles charged with capital crimes are automatically tried in the adult criminal courts, which alone have the power to impose the death sentence. In other states a juvenile court decides whether or not to transfer the case to the jurisdiction of the criminal court. In the cases examined by AI, the juvenile courts did not appear to consider the emotional maturity of the defendant when deciding whether he or she would be tried as an adult. Juveniles charged with capital crimes were commonly sent to the adult criminal court simply because the juvenile system maintains no facilities for long-term incarceration.

In one Kentucky case, the juvenile court specifically found that the defendant was "emotionally immature and could be amenable to treatment if properly done on a long-term basis." However, the court ordered the case to be transferred to the adult court — where the defendant was subsequently sentenced to death — as the state did not provide long-term youth rehabilitation programmes.

Conditions on death rows in the U.S. are generally harsh; most prisoners sentenced to death have no access to prison work, vocational training programmes or group educational classes. They are typically confined alone, in small, poorly-equipped cells, with limited opportunities for association with other prisoners and no access to rehabilitative treatment. Such conditions are particularly damaging to juvenile offenders, many of whom eventually have their death sentences overturned on appeal.

International law unanimously prohibits the imposition of the death penalty on juvenile offenders. Article 6(5) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) states: "Sentence of death shall not be imposed for crimes committed by persons below eighteen years of age and shall not be carried out on pregnant women." Article 4(5) of the American Convention on Human Rights contains a similar provision. The U.S. government signed both these treaties in 1977, but has not yet ratified them.

These international standards were developed in recognition of the fact that the death penalty, with its uniquely cruel and irreversible character, is a wholly inappropriate punishment for those who have not attained full physical or emotional maturity and are thus widely recognised as being less responsible for their actions.

The existence of the death penalty undermines the foundations of the criminal justice system by ruling out the possibility of rehabilitation. The execution of young people is particularly abhorrent because their personalities and patterns of behaviour are not fixed and they are more likely than adults to be successfully rehabilitated. Moreover, the young people on death row will not be killed until they have grown to adulthood while appealing their sentences. By the time they are put to death, they may bear little resemblance to the teenagers who committed their crimes.

Supporters of the death penalty often point to its supposed deterrent effect. Detailed research in the U.S. and other countries has failed to provide evidence that the death penalty deters crime more effectively than other punishments; some studies have found that the "brutalising" effect of executions actually increases the rate of violent crime. The deterrence argument is even less persuasive when applied to juveniles. Professor Victor Streib of the College of Law at Cleveland State University, who has conducted detailed studies of juvenile offenders, concluded: "It seems clear that few adolescents have any meaningful concept of death. In fact, they seem to be attracted to death-defying behaviour, the threat of a death penalty may actually encourage some juvenile crimes."

During the 1980s the U.S. Supreme Court was asked to rule on whether the execution of juveniles was permissible under the constitution. Lawyers handling these appeals argued that the execution of juvenile offenders constitutes cruel and unusual punishment in violation of the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution.

In 1982 the Supreme Court vacated the death sentence imposed on Monty Lee Eddings, a 16-year-old offender, on the grounds that the trial judge had refused to consider mitigating evidence at the sentencing hearing. Although the court failed to rule on the question of whether the death penalty was necessarily cruel and unusual punishment when imposed on a 16-year-old, the court noted "just as the chronological age of a minor is itself a relevant mitigating factor of great weight, so must the background and mental and emotional development of a youthful defendant be duly considered in sentencing."

As AI's findings demonstrate, these principles have been ignored in subsequent cases involving juvenile offenders.

In 1989, by a narrow 5-4 majority, the Supreme Court upheld the death sentences imposed on Kevin Stanford and Heath Wilkins, who were sentenced to death for murders committed when they were 17 and 16 respectively. Writing for the majority, Justice Antonin Scalia said that U.S. society had formed no consensus that such executions constitute "cruel and unusual punishment," and rejected evidence suggesting that the death penalty had no deterrent effect on juveniles. AI described the ruling as "a retrograde step for international human rights."

Justice William Brennan, dissenting from the majority, noted that "within the world community, the imposition of the death penalty for juvenile crimes appears to be overwhelmingly disapproved." The execution of juveniles, he said, made no measurable contribution to acceptable goals of punishment.

A significant body of professional opinion in the U.S. including the American Bar Association (ABA) and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, likewise condemns the imposition of the death penalty on juvenile offenders. In a brief submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1989, the ABA argued that "our society recognises that minors are less mature, less experienced, less able to exercise good judgment and self-restraint, more susceptible to environmental influence (both positive and negative), and as a result less responsible and less culpable in a moral sense than adults." The ABA acknowledged that some minors charged with serious crimes must be tried and sentenced in the adult criminal courts, but added: "They should not be held to the degree of moral accountability necessary to justify the ultimate sanction of execution."

All of the juvenile offenders on death row were convicted of murder, some committed in particularly brutal circumstances. AI does not argue the juveniles should not be held criminally liable, or subjected to severe punishment where appropriate. However, AI is unconditionally opposed to the death penalty because it is a violation of the fundamental right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment.

The death penalty is premeditated and cold-blooded murder on the part of the state, and can never be justified as a fitting response to violent crime, however repugnant. There must be restraints on the actions governments can take to punish individuals. As a first step towards the total abolition of the death penalty, and to bring the U.S. into minimal conformity with international standards, the line must be drawn at the age of 18.

# West watches row over crumbling CIS forces in fear

By Nicholas Doughty  
Reuter

**BRUSSELS** — There was a time when the West would have been delighted to see Soviet armed might fall apart, troops demoralised and politicians bickering over who has control of the forces.

Now, NATO is worried that the growing row between former Soviet republics — and especially between Russia and Ukraine — over the shareout of military power will raise tension across Europe and may even bring new threats of conflict.

The test, alliance diplomats say, was last Friday's summit in London of leaders from the new Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). They could not agree to form joint armed forces.

"It was very disappointing," said a NATO official. "We are worried that it will deteriorate into rivalry between Russia and Ukraine that will be destabilising the whole of Europe. There may be a new regional arms race, even conflict."

Henry Dods, a specialist on the former Soviet forces with the authoritative Jane's Defence Weekly, said there was now no chance the republics would set up NATO-style structures to group their armed forces into a common defence.

"I'm very pessimistic," he told Reuters. "Russia and Ukraine will set up their own forces and

the rivalry will be increasingly bitter."

Russia and Ukraine are by far the most powerful republics in the 11-member CIS, which has so far agreed that only nuclear weapons will remain under a single command.

The two republics have clashed over control of the Black Sea fleet and are now embroiled in a dispute over air power and the shareout of tanks and other military hardware, limited under an east-west treaty signed in 1990.

While former Soviet forces have left most of Eastern Europe, more than 200,000 troops are still in Eastern Germany, now NATO territory. Poland and the Baltic republics have thousands more.

"With all the arguments over control and the poor state of morale in the armed forces, the troops that are on foreign soil are a real danger," said another NATO official.

Russia is far bigger than Ukraine, although much of the Soviet army's best equipment was held in Ukraine during the cold war as it was closer to the front-line than Russia.

Ukraine is already going ahead with plans to set up its own armed forces and senior Russian generals have said they are prepared to form an army of 1.5 million men as a last resort.



## South Korea wins its first Winter Olympics gold medal

ALBERTVILLE, France (AP) — Italian skier Stefania Belmondo outraced Russian iron woman Lyubov Egorova by 22 seconds over 30 kilometres Friday, but Egorova amassed the best medal haul so far of these Winter Olympics.

Egorova's total of five — three gold and two silver — made her the most successful cross-country skier in a single winter games. Bronze medalist Elena Valbe, Egorova's teammate on the Unified Team along former Soviet athletes, also had five, but four were bronze, along with a relay race gold.

Norway's Vegard "the Viking" Ulvang, who has three golds and a silver, planned to try for his fifth medal Saturday in the men's 50-kilometre cross country.

"I slept only three hours because I had back pains and in the morning I thought I wouldn't have a chance. But after the start I forgot all about it," the 23-year-old Belmondo said after winning Italy's fourth gold of these games. Her own total is one gold, one silver and one bronze.

Egorova said, "I didn't think about the gold while I was skiing. I was only thinking about doing my best on the day."

Wolfgang Hoppe, pursuing his third gold in three Olympics, piloted a German sled to first place midway through four-man bobsled competition, despite bobbing with a hamstring injury six weeks ago.

Hoppe, 34, champion in the two- and four-man events in 1984, led Austria by .07 seconds with two runs remaining Saturday. Canada was 19 behind the leader and Swiss driver Gustav Weder, winner of the two-man gold medal Sunday, was .23 off the pace.

Germany still held the overall medals leads with 25, including 10 gold. The Unified Team's two cross country medals brought its total to 22, including eight gold. Austria had 19 and Norway 18.

The women's longest cross country race came after a day of major winter sports rivalries — Austrians and Swiss, Dutch and Norwegians ... and South Koreans, Chinese and Canadians.

South Korea won its first Winter Olympics gold medal ever Thursday when Kim Ki-Hoon broke a teammate's minutes-ol world record in the men's 1,000-metre race. A Canadian was second.

Canada won the women's 3,000-metre relay after the anchor for world record-holder China, leading in a semifinal heat, fell only 50 metres from the finish.

As for the Austrians and Swiss, in women's slalom skiing, Austrian Petra Kronberger, a two-time World Cup champion, won by .42 seconds, becoming a double gold medalist. Defending Olympic slalom champion Vreni Schneider of Switzerland managed only seventh.

Annelise Coberger charged from eighth after the first run to take the silver — New Zealand's first Winter Olympics medal ever.

Dutch skater Bart Veldkamp ended Norway's monopoly on long-distance speedskating gold medals in these games, beating world record-holder Johann Olav Koss in the regular track men's 10,000 metres.

The Unified Team athletes won in another longstanding rivalry — Germans against Soviets in biathlon. Evgeny Redkine, in his Olympic debut, won the 20-kilometre race when Germany's Mark Kirchner, already a double gold medalist, missed his last shooting target.

Japan's Midori Ito, usually a stellar jumper, needed to recover powerfully from a fall in her original programme to gain a medal in women's figure skating night. After the original programme, she stood fourth — behind Americans Kristi Yamaguchi and Nancy Kerrigan and France's Surya Bonaly.

Regardless of how Ito fares, however, Asians were having their best Winter Olympics ever. Japan had five medals, including a gold in Nordic skiing's combined jumping-cross country event. The rest of the Asian medals were in regular or short track speedskating — three for South Korea and two for China, which also had no medals in previous Winter Games.

Kim, the 1991 World Champion at 500 and 3,000 metres in short track, won Thursday in 1 minute, 30.76 seconds, breaking the record of 1:31.16 set only 15 minutes earlier by teammate Lee Joon-Ho in the semifinals. Lee ended with the bronze, behind Canada's Frederic Blackburn.

New Zealand almost had another medal as Mike McMillen reached the four-man final, but he finished last.

Canada took Olympic gold after winning 10 of the last 11 women's relay World Championships. It had help when Chinese anchor Zhang Yanmei fell rounding the final turn in the semifinals. The United States was second and the Unified Team third.

Kronberger, who won the combined event last week but fell in the giant slalom Wednesday, shed tears of joy over her slalom victory.

"I was a very good run and I think this run I have only every hundred years," Kronberger said, "but it was in the Olympic Games and that's very good for me."

Spain won its first medal of these games — a bronze for Blanca Fernandez Ochoa, whose nider brother, Francisco, won the men's slalom in the 1972 games. She was .25 seconds behind Coberger.

Veldkamp's triumph was the Netherlands' first in Olympic men's speedskating since Piet Kleine took the 10,000 metres in 1976.

He finished 2.46 seconds ahead of Koss, gold medalist earlier in the 1,500, and 6.01 seconds faster than bronze medalist Geir Karlstad, another Norwegian. Karlstad was the gold medalist here at 5,000 metres.

"Everywhere we go, there are Dutch spectators," Veldkamp said. "It's a good feeling. ... Every Dutch person knows how to skate, and to skate fast."

Biathlon winner Redkine said he learned only two days before the race that he was going to compete, as a substitute for Sergei Tassarov, sidelined throughout the games by a serious illness.

He was perfect in the shooting portion, while Kirchner's three misses cost three minutes in penalties added to his cross-country ski time. Redkine won by only 6.4 seconds. Mikael Lofgren of Sweden had two misses and finished 25 seconds behind the winner for the bronze.

## Al Ramtha retains Jordan Cup title

By Aileen Bannayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Al Ramtha held on to their Jordan Cup title when they beat Al Wihdat 1-0 in the final match played Friday.

The first half ended scoreless. But Faysal Bideiri quickly changed that in the 47th minute, scoring the match's only goal from a free kick from just outside the penalty box.

Al Wihdat's Ibrahim Sa'diyeh lost a chance to equalise, while Al Ramtha's Khaleel Al Aqqouri failed to score his team's second goal.

Al Wihdat therefore lost the chance to win both the cup and league titles in the same season (a feat accomplished only by Al Faisali so far).

The match was attended by Minister of Youth Saleh Irshaidat and a crowd of 17,000 soccer fans.

Meanwhile the Jordan Soccer Federation (JSF) has set the 1992 soccer season schedule.

The season will begin on March 20 with the Cup Winner's Cup, in which the premier league champion meets the winner of the Jordan Cup. Al Wihdat will therefore play Al Ramtha.

The Federation Shield will be held during Ramadan, from March 21-30. The premier league (which has been renamed the first division) kicks off on April 7 and will end on June 12.

The under-16 and under-19 as well as the second, third, fourth and fifth division competitions will run up until the end of November. The Jordan Cup, which begins on Sept. 15, will conclude the 1992 season.

The JSF has tight-lippedly squeezed the 1992 schedule to enable some teams, as well as the national team to take part in the Arab and Asian competitions.

The tight agenda however is bound to create an extra pressure on everyone involved, especially since there is less than a month's time between the end of the past season and the 1992 kick off on March 20.

"There should have been a transition period to allow some sort of mental and physical relief for the players," Al Wihdat's head coach Mohammad Mustafa told the Jordan Times.

"As a result of the continued postponements of last season the two seasons have been integrated. This will unfortunately cause a lot of problems," said Mustafa. "I expect many players to be plagued by injuries due to over-stress, and this will reflect badly on all the teams, especially the national team."

## Seeds continue to roll at Slims of Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma (R) — Form held firm at the \$150,000 Virginia of Oklahoma Tennis Tournament Thursday as four seeded players breezed to straight-set victories to reach the quarterfinals.

Top-seeded Zina Garrison closed out the afternoon session with a swift 6-2 6-1 victory over Rika Hiraki of Japan.

Nicole Provis of Australia, the fifth seed, was even stungier than Garrison, yielding only one game to compatriot Kristin Godridge in winning 6-1 6-0.

Third seed Lori McNeil was a 6-4 6-2 winner against South African Elna Reinach, and fourth-seeded Amy Frazier beat fellow-American Lofisa Allen 6-4 6-0.

Garrison was definitely upbeat after her 48-minute match.

"I'm really starting to enjoy my tennis," said Garrison, who will face Ann Grossman in the quarterfinals.

"For me, the strokes are all there. But to keep winning it is important that I feel like I'm having a good time," she said.

"And now, I'm feeling great."

## Parker available for league leaders Manchester United

LONDON (R) — Manchester United defender Paul Parker will be available for the English League leader's clash with Crystal Palace Saturday after making a full recovery from a hamstring injury.

The injury kept Parker out of the United side for one match and also ruled him out of England's team for the friendly international against France this week.

His return poses a happy problem for manager Alex Ferguson who has the luxury of selecting from a squad missing only Steve Bruce.

Ferguson could omit of his wingers, Ryan Giggs or Andrei Kanchelskis, and switch the defence to make room for Parker.

United will be chasing the double over Palace, whom they beat 3-1 at Selhurst Park in November.

## Krabbe trains for Olympics despite suspension

BERLIN (Agencies) — World sprint champion Katrin Krabbe Thursday again denied any wrongdoing and said she expects to compete in the Barcelona summer Olympics despite her suspension for falsifying a drug test along with two German teammates.

The German Athletics Federation (DLV) suspended Krabbe, 22, Grit Brener and Silke Moeller, for four years after it said the three submitted drug-free urine samples that came from the same person. Their trainer, Thomas Springstein, also was suspended.

Falsifying drug tests carries the same penalty as failing one under International Amateur Athletic Association (IAAF) rules.

Krabbe was interviewed by German ZDF Television during a training session at her hometown of Neubrandenburg north of Berlin, and repeated her denial of wrongdoing.

"There was no manipulation," she said, adding that she hopes the appeals processes don't go on too long because runners need calm to train. "We want to start

in Barcelona, and we're training for it. And I think we will start."

Krabbe would be one of Germany's top medal hopes if she competes in the summer Olympics. She won the 100 and 200 metres at last summer's World Championships in Tokyo. Brener, 20, won a silver medal in the 400 metres at Tokyo, and Moeller, 27, is a former world champion at 100 metres.

All three came to the German team from former East Germany, which was a sports powerhouse but now has a deeply-tainted reputation from the widespread use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Meanwhile a German lawyer investigating a dope test that led to the suspension of Krabbe will interview the South African officials who took the samples.

Chris Hattingh, chairman of the Doping Committee of Athletics South Africa, said Friday he would meet Norbrecht Lorenz, legal adviser to the German Athletics Federation (DLV) in Johannesburg later in the day.

He said they would visit Stellenbosch, near Cape Town, Saturday to interview officials, who carried out dope tests on the three former athletes training in the town earlier this year.

Professor Manfred Donike of Cologne said tests showed that the three women submitted identical samples, but the athletes deny wrongdoing and says they will go to court to prove their innocence if necessary.

The three spent several weeks in Stellenbosch, a university town 50 km from Cape Town, training in conditions similar to those expected at the Barcelona Olympics.

Mr. Hattingh said in a telephone interview he would take Lorenz to the testing centre at the Coetzburg University track.

"We will fly to Cape Town together Saturday to meet all the officials and everyone else involved in the tests," he said.

Hattingh said he was not aware of any failure or fraud by any athletics South Africa officials,

but he said the decision to interview them on the scene was his. "We want to give the German Athletic Federation every opportunity to make a thorough study of the circumstances," he said.

Athletics South Africa is the country's new unified track and field, authority formed by the amalgamation of two racially segregated controlling bodies.

Krabbe's lawyer and doping experts have suggested there may have been irregularities in the testing procedure.

Reinhard Rauball told German television earlier this week: "It's definite the samples were tampered with, but the DLV has not proven the athletes were involved."

Krabbe's manager has threatened a \$6 million lawsuit if she loses sponsors.

Her chief backer Nike said it will stick by her until a case is proven but sports nutrition firm Isostar cancelled a two-year promotional deal shortly after the suspensions were announced.

## Courier, Edberg win, Lendl, Becker lose in Stuttgart

STUTTGART, Germany (AP) — Jim Courier and Stefan Edberg, the top two seeds, won, but upset eliminated No. 3 Boris Becker and No. 4 Ivan Lendl Thursday in the second round of the \$1.04 million Eurocard Classics Tournament.

Courier ousted Dutchman Richard Krajcek 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, and Edberg swept past Austrian Alex Antonitsch 6-1, 6-2. Both advanced to the quarterfinals.

Unseeded Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands ousted Becker 6-3, 6-4 and Alexander Volkov of Russia took out Lendl 7-6 (7-4),

5-7, 6-1. Weary from too much tennis last weekend, Becker disappointed a crowd of around 7,000, including many fans from his hometown of Leimen.

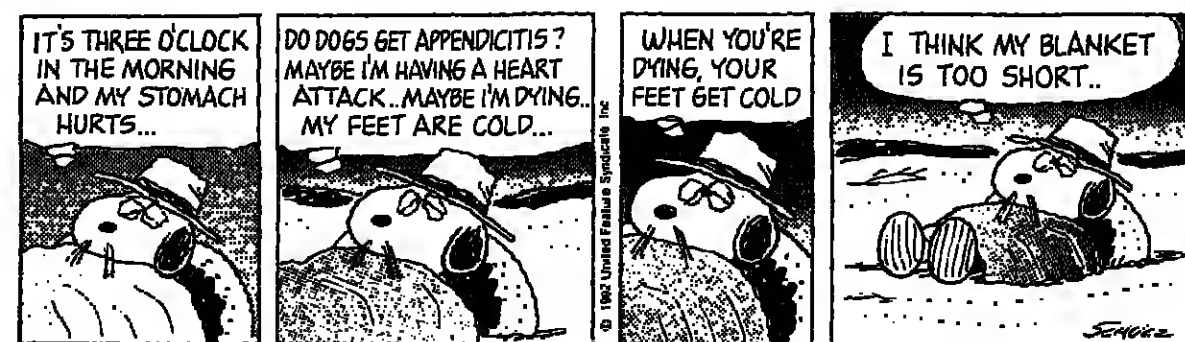
Becker looked sluggish and never seemed to find any kind of rhythm in the 79-minute match. Siemerink kept Becker pinned down with a powerful serve-and-volley game.

"After playing many, many hours in singles and doubles at Brussels last week I was very tired and it took its toll," said Becker.

## Andy Capp



## Peanuts



## Mutt'n'Jeff



## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22, 1992  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Fighter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Devote right into those responsibilities ahead of you and expect to make some changes in your methods even though you are concentrating on practical matters and realistic considerations.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Now you will be able to gather to yourself whatever information and data you desire as well as get out statements and reports expected of you.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) All kinds of interesting conferences and huddles can be engaged in with those experts who can give the specific suggestions you desire.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You have all kinds of personal associations today and tonight that if you renew can have in your life at intermittent periods for sometime to come.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) You have a good chance to have considerable assistance in putting into motion a private plan that appeals to you but requires much activity and cooperation.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Think about the various friends and acquaintances, both men and women who are most able to give you intelligent suggestions for gaining personal goals.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Outside interests and activities of all sorts should claim your attention now for you are able to make them work to your gain and progress.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Think about where you can go and what you can do to extend your present prosperity beyond present boundaries and you make major strides in doing so.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) A very good day to have a conversation with your attachment about the direction in which your alliance is taking, things to do to improve accord.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Listen to persons who have all kinds of divergent standpoints today and you will get some very good ideas you can use in your own affairs.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Every possible angle you can work to make your surroundings more as you desire can be helpful to you now so pitch in and get tasks done.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You have your best ideas in sometime for deciding the good times which can bring you the greatest amount of relief from burdens so arrange them.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Make a special point today to find out just what is expected of you by those who also dwell beneath your own roof and show you can please them.

## HE BETTER HALF.



## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ROPYX

BASAH

PHOSUT

HERTHS

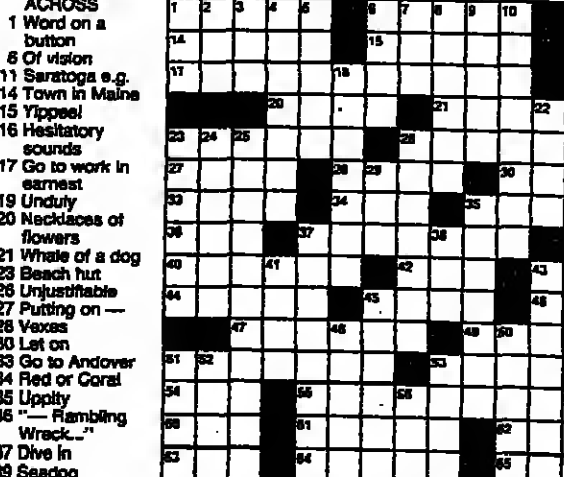
Answer here: THAT THE

Yesterday's Jumble: FORD OCTET SECOND INJURY

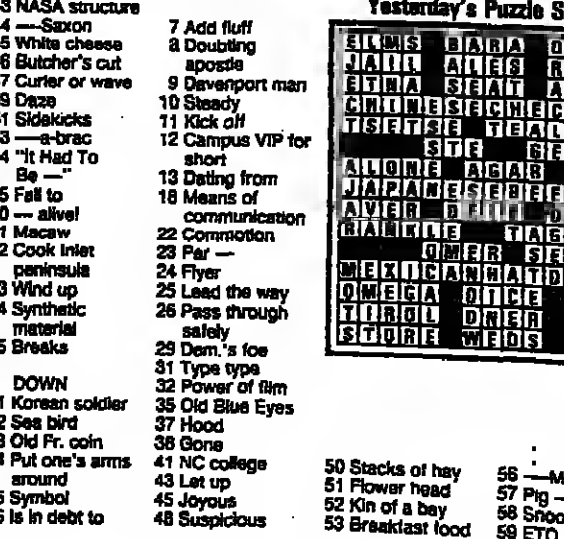
Answer: "We love me when I'm old and ugly!" — "OF COURSE I DO!"

## THE Daily Crossword

by Virginia L. Yates



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAR HIRSCH  
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### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠AJ1065 ♥763 ♣J86 ♦KQ

Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠AJ1065 ♥763 ♣J86 ♦KQ

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♣ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠AJ1065 ♥763 ♣J86 ♦KQ

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♣ Pass ?

What action do you take?

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠KQ ♥J5 ♦AKQJ76 ♣A85

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠AKQ106 ♥76 ♣Q95 ♦KQ2

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠A94 ♥K84 ♦K95 ♣10873

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♠ Dbl 3 ♠ ?

What action do you take?



Financial Markets  
in co-operation with  
Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close 19/2/1992	Tokyo Close 20/2/1992
Sterling Pound	1.7560	1.7427
Deutsche Mark	1.6425	1.6555
Swiss Franc	1.4850	1.4990
French Franc	5.5870	5.6300
Japanese Yen	126.20	126.55
European Currency Unit	1.7455	1.7570

Interbank Interest Rates

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.12	4.12	4.25	4.62
Sterling Pound	10.12	10.00	10.00	10.00
Deutsche Mark	9.53	9.53	9.43	9.31
Swiss Franc	7.31	7.31	7.25	7.12
French Franc	9.87	9.87	9.84	9.68
Japanese Yen	5.40	5.15	4.87	4.81
European Currency Unit	9.96	10.06	10.06	9.93

Previous Metals

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	352.95	6.75	Silver	4.08	.090

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6820	0.6840
Sterling Pound	1.1879	1.1938
Deutsche Mark	0.4115	0.4130
Swiss Franc	0.4554	0.4577
French Franc	0.1215	0.1221
Japanese Yen	0.5302	0.5324
Dutch Guilder	0.3671	0.3689
Swedish Krona	0.1135	0.1131
Italian Lira	0.0551	0.0554
Belgian Franc	0.02012	0.02022

Other Currencies

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7800	1.7850
Lebanese Lira	0.07695	0.0775
Saudi Riyal	0.1816	0.1826
Kuwaiti Dinar	0.1846	0.1856
Omani Riyal	0.2050	0.2150
Egyptian Pound	1.7450	1.7540
UAE Dirham	0.1846	0.1856
Greek Drachma	0.3576	0.3650
Cypriot Pound	1.4603	1.4773

CAJ Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	18 - 2 - 1992 Close	19 - 2 - 1992 Close
All-Share	138.65	138.97
Banking Sector	110.86	110.47
Insurance Sector	138.06	138.47
Industry Sector	179.87	181.34
Services Sector	154.65	154.69

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

Currency	Rate
One Sterling	1.7415/25
One U.S. dollar	1.1830/35
	1.6550/60
	1.8545/55
	1.4940/50
	33.98/02
	5.5830/80
	1241/1243
	128.80/90
	6.0030
	6.4715/4815
	6.4000/5000
One ounce of gold	352.30/352.80

Analyst expects interest rates on dollar to stay low

By Jawad Azzeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Interest rates payable on currencies are used by central banks as a tool of monetary policy. When the rate of inflation in a country is low, its central bank tends to reduce interest rates payable on its currency in an effort to help produce higher rates of economic growth. Interest rates should not, however, fall below the rate of inflation in an economy. For if they fall below that rate for a currency, investors would tend to pull their investments out of that currency into other currencies. That would reduce the exchange rate of the currency, raise the price of imports into the country, and consequently, increase the rate of the country's inflation.

The decline in U.S. interest rates in the past eighteen months made it possible for the U.S. economy to grow moderately in the second and third quarters of 1991. The considerable cuts in these rates last December should help strengthen the U.S. economy further. The fiscal stimulus included in Mr. Bush's State of the Union message to Congress should help consumer confidence in retaining their jobs and adding new jobs to payrolls across the country. This should help push consumer spending to new higher levels. Consumers account for about two thirds of American GDP and these measures will

Foreigners return to Shanghai bourse

SHANGHAI (R) — Foreigners traded shares in Shanghai Friday for the first time since the 1949 revolution in a bold capitalist experiment to transform the cradle of Chinese communism.

The fledgling communist bourse followed capitalist rules of supply and demand, with the new B shares issued by Shanghai Vacuum Electron Device Co. surging to a sharply higher finish as few sellers entered the market. The shares, the first in Shanghai expressly intended for foreign investors, closed at \$88.5 from an opening bid of \$72.4, an intra-day high of 92.4, exchange officials said. They carried a face value equivalent to \$70.

Shanghai Vacuum, a successful state-owned manufacturer of television components, represents about half of the current capitalisation of companies listed in Shanghai, which now totals about 3.8 billion yuan (\$697 million).

The shares were listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange, a colonial-style building near the Bund, Shanghai's waterfront. In pre-revolution days was the financial heart of China. In all, one million B shares were offered last month by a group of foreign and local Shanghai underwriters, raising \$71 million to buy Japanese equipment to make colour TV tubes.

The Shanghai Vacuum B shares have been trading on the grey market at 600 yuan (\$110) and analysts say they expect this will be the level they ultimately

'Use oil with wisdom'

NEW DELHI (R) — India, facing a shortfall in oil production and a rising import bill on crude and petroleum products, has mounted a "save oil" campaign. "Use oil with wisdom," is the slogan promoted by the state-owned Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) spearheading the campaign. "A 20 per cent saving in the consumption of petroleum products is possible in the next two to three years. This will mean a saving of more than \$2 billion on imports," PCRA executive director Reena Ramchandran told Reuters.

India has kept oil products consumption in check with price hikes, besides conservation measures in the last two years. But imports have still increased because of a shortfall in production.

In 1991/92 (April/March), India's imports of crude and oil products are expected to be around 23.5 million tonnes and 9.5 million, respectively, after 20.7 million and 8.6 million in the previous year.

India's crude output in 1991/92 is expected to be around 30 million tonnes, down from 33 million in the previous year and compared to 34 million in 1989/90. Oil experts have blamed the production shortfall on bad management of oil wells by the state-run oil and natural gas commission.

Ms. Ramchandran said India's oil conservation drive assumed importance because of the rising import bill, estimated at around \$6 billion in 1991/92. "India can save 2.5 million tonnes on oil products used by industry alone," she said. She estimated industry uses at about 14 million tonnes a year.

The save oil drive in industry is aimed at enforcing compulsory energy audits, replacing outdated equipment and introducing fuel-efficient technologies. Ms. Ramchandran said. The transport sector, which consumes about 40 per cent of the total supply of oil products, is one area targeted by PCRA for intensifying its save oil campaign.

"At least one million tonnes of diesel could be saved through better management controls, driving and maintenance practices," Ms. Ramchandran said.

Algeria sells gas to Slovenia

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria has started sending natural gas to Slovenia under a contract to deliver 600 million cubic metres (21 billion cubic feet) a year up to the year 2007.

The Algerian state oil and gas firm Sonatrach said deliveries to the firm Sozd Petrol started on Feb. 15 and were the first sales to Slovenia.

The gas travelled some 3,000 kilometres from Hassi Rmel in southern Algeria, across Tunisia, through trans-Mediterranean pipelines and then into the Italian network, it said. A 30-kilometre line has been built to link Slovenia to the Italian system.

Rouble gains strength

MOSCOW (AP) — The rouble has joined other items in short supply, but this was good news for the Russians who had them Thursday. The rouble gained strength against the dollar.

Long lines of people eager to unload their previously precious dollars stood outside banks in Moscow and the Far East port of Vladivostok, according to a Russian News Agency and the Commonwealth TV news programme.

Those holding dollars, which have become the currency of preference in many large cities of the former Soviet Union, suffered another setback in Moldova, which announced Thursday that it plans to ban the use of dollars and other foreign currency on its territory.

The Moscow branch of the Savings Bank of Russia was buying dollars for 70 roubles, a significant increase in the rouble's purchasing power from Wednesday when a dollar cost 100 roubles.

Last week, the rate was 110 roubles to the dollar at state banks, and at currency auctions it fluctuated between 210 and 230 roubles per dollar.

Top economic officials predicted the rate would hit 50 roubles to the dollar within two months.

"People are in a hurry to sell (foreign) currency," said the ITAR-TASS news agency. For foreigners wanting to buy dollars and other foreign currency, banks now charge a 10 per cent commission, ITAR-TASS reported. Russian citizens must pay a 25 per cent commission, it said.

The Russian Information Agency (RIA) reported that officials in Vladivostok's Dairy Bank had to restrict the number of people trying to exchange dollars for roubles on Wednesday.

The bank's director general, Galina Belyayeva, told the news agency that customers were in a hurry to get rid of dollars following its steep drop in value.

REQUIRED SECRETARY

For work in company in Jabal Amman near 3rd Circle. Must be fluent in English and good in typewriting. Knowledge in using telex, fax and computer is an advantage but not necessary. Such knowledge could be obtained in the company. For interview please call tel.: 645651/2

Furnished Flat in Western Shmeisani FOR RENT

Ground floor of 180 square metres in area consisting of 2 bedrooms, guest room, living room, dining room, spacious kitchen, two bathrooms, glassed-in veranda, small garden, fence, special garage, central heating and telephone. Location: Western Shmeisani, Abdul Halim Al Nimer Street, near Bilal Mosque. Home No. 24. Call tel.: 664256/685593, Amman.

SECRETARY REQUIRED

Secretary required with following qualifications: - Reasonably good knowledge of Arabic and English languages. - Typing, Arabic & English. - Knowledge in operating word processor. - Shorthand. - Filing. - Minimum one year experience in secretarial work. - Own car an advantage. Salary according to qualifications. Applications together with C.V. to be sent to: P.O.Box 1154 / Amman - Jordan

SELF-ADHESIVE COMPUTERS

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## Commonwealth military confronts sagging morale, divided loyalties

MOSCOW (AP) — Disputes between former Soviet republics are hurting morale in the armed forces, and there are signs that the devotion of soldiers to the "motherland" already has eroded, senior officers have said.

Air Force Maj. Gen. Nikolai Stolyarov, chairman of the Personnel Committee of the Commonwealth Armed Forces, said the defection of six SU-24 bomber pilots from Ukraine to Russia last week was especially worrisome.

"This event... cannot be considered good for morale," Gen. Stolyarov told a news conference. Gen. Stolyarov and other members of the personnel committee maintained that most soldiers are still patriotic and follow orders. But they gave a remarkably candid assessment of the psychological impact of the Soviet Union's demise and rifts within the 10-week-old Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

A poll last month by the army of its own troops found that about 80 per cent are "devoted to the defence of the motherland" and would follow their commanders' orders without hesitation. That was down from 90 per cent last July, before the headline coup

attempt and the breakup of the union, said Col. Pyotr Korchemny, head of the Personnel Committee's Information Department.

Col. Korchemny did not provide details on the poll results or methodology.

He said the drop of 10 percentage points "causes alarm, and the personnel committee is planning its efforts so that, at the very least, the percentage does not drop any more."

His comment reflected the difficulty of defining the "motherland" now that the 15 former Soviet republics are all independent and four of them — Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova and Azerbaijan — are setting up their own armies.

Members of the Military Personnel Committee would not say whether most soldiers feel their primary loyalty is to the Commonwealth or to their native republics.

Meanwhile former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev criticised the CIS leaders Thursday, saying they were irresponsible and self-important. The TASS News Agency reported.

It was Mr. Gorbachev's strongest criticism of the Commonwealth since he resigned as

president on Dec. 25.

Mr. Gorbachev told the Echo Moskvy radio station that as the Commonwealth disintegrates, he was stunned by "flabbiness, self-importance and irresponsibility" of its leaders. ITAR-TASS reported.

He told Echo Moskvy that he was surprised the leaders meet only once monthly, and added that the meetings usually have no results. ITAR-TASS said.

"I cannot forgive my former colleagues," ITAR-TASS quoted Mr. Gorbachev as telling Radio Moskvy. "Under present conditions, when all old ties are being dismantled, it is necessary to meet at least once a week, or even stay together until agreements are reached."

Since resigning, Mr. Gorbachev has led a political think-tank he founded last summer called the Fund for Socio-Political Research.

The stated goal of the organisation, known as "Gorbachev's fund" in the Russian media, is to organise political and scientific exchanges with foreign experts, prepare research reports for Russian legislators and help politicians with election campaigns.

In a separate development,

NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner will press Russia and Ukraine to reach quick agreement over the share-out of military power during his first visit to the new Commonwealth of Independent States.

Alliance officials say Mr. Woerner, who starts a trip to the two most powerful former Soviet republics Saturday, is worried the West's plans to build a new security model for Europe might be derailed by an increasingly bitter row between them.

It will be the first meeting between Mr. Woerner, a former West German defence minister, and Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk and Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

"I am interested in their views on the future security framework which encompasses their states and our member nations," Mr. Woerner told reporters earlier this week.

In Moscow, a spokesman for Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev said Mr. Woerner would want to know how the new Commonwealth was developing and what was happening to the armed forces — once the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's arch-enemy.

## Bush sticks to economic message

PRESIDENT Bush plans no change in his message despite a blizzard of protest votes in New Hampshire, aides said Thursday. Democrat Paul Tsongas headed for South Dakota's primary battleground while Gov. Bill Clinton campaigned in Florida as a defender of social security.

"I don't think the American people are rejecting the president's message," White House spokeswoman Judy Smith said when asked about the 47 per cent of the vote Mr. Bush lost in Tuesday's New Hampshire primary.

Mr. Bush will press with campaigning for his economic plan, Ms. Smith said. She rejected the notion that conservative challenger Patrick Buchanan's strong showing in New Hampshire plus a raft of write-in votes could be a sign that the administration's economic policies are not selling among Republican voters.

"I don't think New Hampshire indicates that at all," she told reporters. "I think New Hampshire voters are concerned about the economy, and so are people across this country. We will express our concerns and offer our plan."

Mr. Clinton, at a rally of several hundred in Winter Haven, Florida, made an appeal for support from that state's large retirement community, blasting the concept of a means test for Medicare and social security, at least until senior citizens are offered better long-term care.

Meanwhile, Mr. Tsongas was trying to prove his New Hampshire victory was no fluke. He and Nebraska Sen. Bob Kerrey were campaigning in Tuesday's primary state of South Dakota, which was also visited by Sen. Tom Harkin.

Mr. Tsongas first headed to Maryland and then New York Wednesday for three fund-raising in Greek-American neighbourhoods, where he was greeted by cheering throngs.

At the same time Mr. Tsongas was trying to quell Democratic Party fears he was another Michael Dukakis, he echoed the 1988 Democratic nominee's oft-repeated tales of his Greek immigrant roots.

But Democratic leaders, hoping for an electable candidate, were uneasy about accepting Mr. Tsongas as the front-runner, despite his 33 per cent showing in Tuesday's New Hampshire primary.

Last week, when Mr. Clinton was reeling from questions over his character, Democrats speculated that a party heavyweight might come in to the void.

But Wednesday, more than 40 congressional Democrats endorsed Mr. Clinton, and congressional leaders criticised Mr. Tsongas.

House speaker Thomas Foley, in an apparent slip of the tongue, may have telegraphed his uneasiness with a possible Tsongas nomination when he referred to the former Massachusetts senator as "Senator Dukakis."

Mr. Tsongas scoffed at such criticisms, boasting about final returns that showed 3,677 New Hampshire Republicans and independents wrote him in.

## French Socialists in deep trouble ahead of elections

PARIS (R) — A month before France votes in regional elections seen as a national political test, President Francois Mitterrand's Socialist Party is in deep trouble.

Opinion polls forecast that the Socialists, buffeted by unemployment, factional squabbles and financial scandals, will lose at least a third of their support in the March 22 elections for 22 regional councils, averaging less than 20 per cent.

The Socialists seem set to lose control of the last two regions they ruled — the north and Limousin. The desertion of working-class voters in industrial northern France, a traditional bastion, could be dramatic.

In the key Paris and Marseille regions, surveys put the Socialists in a humiliating third place behind the mainstream Conservative opposition and the extreme-right National Front.

Many voters seem bent on using the regional poll to censure Mr. Mitterrand and his unpopular Prime Minister Edith Cresson. The president is widely expected to reshuffle the government and perhaps fire Ms. Cresson after the election.

But paradoxically the Union For France, an alliance of Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac's neo-Gaullist Rally for the Republic and former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's centre-right Union for French Democracy, is also

expected to lose votes slightly.

"The result could be a massive rejection of the political establishment, not just of the Socialists, with more than half of the electorate abstaining and a third of those who do cast ballots voting for protest parties," said Pierre Giacomoni of the BVA polling institute.

Jean-Marie Le Pen's anti-immigration National Front may win up to 15 per cent nationwide, with two ecologist lists sharing another 15 or 16 per cent of the vote.

The Communist Party, written off by commentators last year after the collapse of Soviet communism, is holding its share of the vote and may average 10 per cent, boosted by working-class discontent at the government's austerity policies.

Divisions among the Socialists have worsened their plight. In the Provence-Alpes-Cote d'Azur region that includes the cities of Nice and Marseille, the faction-torn party is not running its own list.

It is backing a slate led by millionaire businessman Bernard Tapie, cancer researcher Leon Schwartzberg and fashion designer Daniel Hechter, none of whom are party members.

But Mr. Tapie's showmanship and attacks on National Front voters as "bastards" have alienated many local Socialists.

## Cambodian operation to cost \$2 billion

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary-General Boutros Ghali has disclosed plans for a hazardous \$2 billion peacekeeping operation in Cambodia of about 22,000 foreign staff to virtually run the entire country.

The operation, called the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia, includes 16,000 military, 3,600 police monitors, about 750 civilians for administration. Another 1,400 will assist in elections along with an estimated 56,000 Cambodians.

Undersecretary-General Yasushi Akashi of Japan, who will head the mission, told reporters he estimated the effort, which he called the largest, most complex in U.N. history, would cost close to \$2 billion over 18 months.

"The operation at times may be less than perfect but unless we go in force into that country, the peace process which is already very precarious, very fragile, may start to disintegrate and that's danger we have to cope with."

Under a peace plan signed in Paris last October among Cambodia's four warring factions, the United Nations was to disarm the combatants, help supervise key ministries, verify a fragile ceasefire now in effect and organise free elections to end decades of misery in the Indochina wars.

A party to the election, as well as a governing interim council will be the Khmer Rouge, held responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands until the Vietnamese dislodged them in 1979.

Mr. Akashi proposed the full military contingent of 15,873 be in Cambodia by the end of July, including 12 infantry battalions of 10,200 members, 2,200 army engineers plus other support units. Cambodian forces are estimated at 200,000, and armed militias of 250,000 are lodged in all villages carrying at least 300,000 weapons and 80 million rounds of ammunition.

The report also goes further than the Paris agreement by proposing 100 per cent demobilisation of the combatants where as they had agreed to 70 per cent.

Mr. Akashi said the Security Council would be asked shortly to back total disarmament before a new government takes office after elections, planned for April or May 1993. He said he assumed the Cambodians would comply with council demands.

Mr. Akashi disclosed that 250 civilians would be needed to supervise Cambodia's civil administration and investigate human rights abuses while another 500 U.N. officials would comprise a headquarters staff.

The report also gave a preview of plans of a gigantic pre-election operation, including the organisation and training of at least 56,000 Cambodians to register 4.3 million voters and man polling places.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk heads an interim Supreme National Council composed of the Vietnam-backed Cambodian government in Phnom Penh and the three guerrilla groups, including the Khmer Rouge, which fought against it.

Raising money for the operation, following close to half a billion dollars expected for Yugoslavia, will be a problem for a world body constantly on the verge of bankruptcy.

## Belgian medical group to boost aid to Karabakh

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The Belgian humanitarian organisation Medecins Sans Frontieres said Thursday it will increase its action in Nagorno-Karabakh where it described the situation as disastrous.

The organisation, operating in Azerbaijan since June last year, was prompted by the new outbreak of fighting between Armenians and Azeris, which "has badly affected civilians from both communities," MSF said in a press release.

"Humanitarian principles are widely ignored," MSF said. "The warring parties show increasing contempt for the fate of civilian populations," MSF said.

Surgeons are reduced to using vodka as an anaesthetic, MSF said. "Hospitals are facing dramatic shortages. There are few medicines, no electricity, no water, no heating."

In addition, MSF said, "food stocks on both sides could soon run out."

"Many doctors fled the fighting," MSF said, adding those sent on short-term assignments by authorities in Baku or Yerevan "have a very low morale."

MSF spokeswoman Anne-Marie Huby said all Belgian MSF members had returned from Nagorno-Karabakh but a team of about 10 would fly there next Monday with surgery equipment, drugs and food.

She said local doctors are not experienced nor equipped to treat war wounds inflicted to the civilian population. "Although the

region suffers from a dramatic shortage of medicines and medical supplies, transport of military supplies takes priority," MSF said.

"MSF relies on military authorities for helicopter transport of medical supplies to hospitals," it said. "MSF volunteers have been the target of rocket fire on several occasions."

The main MSF base will be established in Agdam, she said. She added MSF members would meet Friday with the prime minister of Azerbaijan, Ganan Gasanov, who is here for talks with the European Community and NATO.

Mrs. Huby said it was impossible to give the number of victims in Nagorno-Karabakh. It is generally estimated that the conflict has killed 1,000 people in four years. Seventeen of Nagorno-Karabakh's 57 villages have been burnt, she said.

Meanwhile the head of the former Soviet army has proposed setting up a peacekeeping force to halt fierce clashes in the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, where more than 20 people were reported killed Wednesday.

ITAR-TASS News Agency said Yevgeny Shaposhnikov, head of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Armed Forces, had sent a letter to CIS heads of state saying urgent measures had to be taken to stop fighting between Azeri and Armenian forces.

## U.N. to send 14,000-man force to Yugoslavia

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council is expected to approve Friday the dispatch of a 14,000-member U.N. peacekeeping force to Yugoslavia for an initial 12-month period, council members said Thursday.

But they were still trying to find ways of trimming the cost of the operation, which according to preliminary U.N. estimates would total a hefty \$635 million in the first year.

Council members scheduled further private consultations Friday in preparation for a public meeting later in the day.

Advance elements of the U.N. force were expected to begin arriving in Yugoslavia within a matter of days.

A draft resolution circulated among council members Thursday would approve a recent report by Secretary-General Boutros Ghali setting guidelines for the operation, to be called the U.N. Protection Force (Unprofor).

Council sources said Unprofor, to which some 30 countries have been asked to contribute personnel, would be commanded by an Indian lieutenant-general though his identity has not yet been announced.

The force is designed to provide a breathing space while efforts continue to end the civil war, which erupted last June when Croatia declared its independence, prompting the Yugoslav Federation to take up arms, aided by the Serb-dominated federal army.

BANGKOK (R) — Burma's military junta has jailed the former head of the main opposition party for seven more years and seems to be preparing to sentence other dissidents detained without trial, a political source said Friday.

Tin Oo, chairman of the National League for Democracy (NLD) when he was detained in July 1989, was sentenced to three years in December that year for subversion.

A military tribunal meeting two weeks ago at the jail near Rangoon added seven years to his sentence, said the source in the Burmese capital. The junta has not announced the decision.

Since Mr. Tin Oo's detention the military has coerced the remnants of the NLD leadership into expelling him from the party.

The source in Rangoon said Mr. Tin Oo's increased sentence had raised fears that the junta might soon try his NLD colleague Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been held under house arrest, also since July 1989, but never tried.

Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi, the league's general secretary until she was expelled in the same manner as Mr. Tin Oo, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize last year for standing up to what the award committee called "a regime characterised by brutality."

The Rangoon source said the junta recently brought formal charges against Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi's personal assistant Ma Thanegi, who was detained at the same time as her.

## Korean talks end with North's nuclear stonewall

SEOUL (R) — South Korean Prime Minister Chung Won-Shik returned Friday from a four-day visit to Pyongyang marked by North Korean stonewalling on nuclear issues that Seoul says could chill warming inter-Korean relations.

The disappointing session, the sixth time premiers of the two Koreas have met, did see accords on non-aggression and nuclear arms agreed in December put formally into effect.

But Mr. Chung failed to prise from the North Koreans a timetable for inspection of suspected nuclear arms development facilities, despite Pyongyang's previous agreement to allow such access.

North Korea's stance left the returning South Koreans openly doubting that North Korea would keep to accords signed with so much fanfare and hope.

"The nuclear issue must be urgently resolved if we are to ensure the survival and well-being of the Korean people," South Korean delegation spokesman Lee Dong-Bok said on departure from the Northern capital.

"We believe a solution must not be put off any further under any pretext," Mr. Lee said.

"Convincing measures toward that end should be taken at the earliest possible date in order to clean up domestic and international doubts as to whether or not these agreements will indeed be properly implemented," he said.

Officials from the two Koreas — still technically at war from the 1950-53 Korean conflict — will meet in the border Hamlet of Panmunjom next week to discuss the nuclear issue.

The prime ministers also agreed to meet for a seventh

session from May 5 to 8 in Seoul.

The prime ministers' meetings began in September 1990.

South Korea, its allies and regional powers such as Russia and China, fear that Stalinist North Korea is developing nuclear weapons. Western analysts have said Pyongyang might have a crude device ready by next year.

While Pyongyang last month signed a nuclear safeguards accord providing for international scrutiny of its facilities, it has yet to agree to a timetable for such inspections.

The North Koreans reiterated long-standing demands for the complete removal of U.S. troops from South Korea and for the release of dissidents held in South Korean jails.

At a luncheon meeting with Mr. Chung, North Korean President Kim Il-Sung asserted North Korea was not even thinking about developing nuclear weapons.

Pyongyang's attitude led many diplomats and South Korean officials and commentators to conclude Pyongyang was stalling for time, either to complete arms development or to move its less acceptable facilities to secret locations.

"It is clear that Kim Il-Sung has changed his views neither before nor after the South-North accords and is still one-sided and sticking to his revolutionary principles," the Choson Ilbo newspaper said Friday.

The non-aggression accord, initiated at the fifth premiers' talks in Seoul last December, provides a basis for further reconciliation by banning subversion and slander, instituting mechanisms to prevent an accidental war, and ostensibly providing for exchanges of people, goods and information.

## Burma extends jail term of opposition leader

"They seem to be tying up loose ends and some people think they will probably move against Aung San Suu Kyi soon," the source said.

Under the terms the junta has set for Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi's house arrest, her detention can be extended to a maximum of five years.

The award of the Nobel Peace Prize brought a flood of international calls for her release and for the junta to hand over power to the NLD.

The party won the May 1990 general election by a landslide but instead of letting it govern the junta has arrested most of its leaders. Diplomats say the party has ceased to function as an opposition group.

They say many local NLD officials have resigned in protest at the remaining leadership's acquiescence to junta demands.

Diplomats say the junta has jailed or forced into exile more than 100 of the 392 NLD politicians who won seats in the election.

Among those in jail is Mr. Kyi Maung, who led the NLD to its election win and was later sentenced to 10 years imprisonment at the age of 72 on what diplomats called trumped-up charges of disclosing state secrets. His sentence was doubled in 1991.

Diplomats believe there are several thousand political prisoners in Burma. Reports of torture are frequent.

The military came to power in 1988 when it killed thousands of

people to crush a nationwide uprising for democracy.

In a separate development, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), trying to organise food and shelter for more than 100,000 Burmese Muslims who fled to Bangladesh, wants talks with Rangoon soon to try to stop the influx.

"The situation is very grave," UNHCR official S.S. Wijeratne said in a newspaper interview published Friday.

"UNHCR is likely to initiate talks soon with the Burmese government to stop the flow of Rohingya Muslim refugees to Bangladesh," Mr. Wijeratne said.

He told the Telegraph newspaper that the agency chief Miss Sadako Ogata would have talks with U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali soon and begin discussions with the Burmese government.

Bangladesh Foreign Minister Mustafizur Rahman said in Brussels Wednesday that 70,000 refugees had crossed into Bangladesh, citing persecution by Burma's military rulers.

Unofficial estimates put the number at more than 110,000 and Mr. Wijeratne said the number could top 200,000 very soon.

Up to 40 per cent of the refugees, mostly the children, are suffering from malnutrition while thousands of others have measles, diarrhoea or fever, camp officials say.

The UNHCR, which has pro-

vided \$100,000 and promised another \$1 million for the refugees, has appealed to governments and agencies to rush help.

The French charity Medecins Sans Frontieres has flown in 38 tonnes of medicines and other aid along with 40 medical workers.

The European Commission Wednesday announced emergency aid worth 500,000 ECUs (\$625,000).

"UNHCR will look after the humanitarian part of the problem... while the political side will be looked into by the U.N. secretary general," Mr. Wijeratne told the Telegraph.

The influx from west Burma's Muslim-majority Arakan state began early last year. The flow suddenly increased after Dec. 21 when Burmese troops attacked a Bangladesh security post, killing one soldier and wounding three.

The incident sparked military alerts on both sides of the border. Bangladesh military intelligence sources say Burma has deployed 85,000 regular and paramilitary soldiers along the frontier.

Mainly Buddhist Burma has accused Bangladesh of sheltering Muslim Rohingya rebels fighting for an independent homeland in Arakan. Dhaka denies the charge.

"The plight of the refugees will definitely worsen at the advent of the monsoon season," Dr. Odile Mary of Medecins Sans Frontieres told reporters in one of the makeshift camps Wednesday.

The UNHCR, which has pro-

## COLUMN 8

### Bush daughter to marry aide to father's critic

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's only daughter, Dorothy Bush Leblond, is straying across party lines to marry a top aide to one of her father's most vocal critics, Rep. Richard Gephardt. Mr. Gephardt is the leader of the Democratic Party in the House of Representatives — often the chief opponent on measures proposed by the president and Republican Party. Last weekend Mrs. Leblond became officially engaged to Robert Koch, Mr. Gephardt's 31-year-old administrative assistant, according to sources. Barbara Bush's spokeswoman Anna Perez confirmed the engagement and said no date has been announced for the wedding. The parents of the bride-to-be — who were campaigning in New Hampshire over the weekend when the engagement occurred — are "thrilled," according to Ms. Perez. The wedding will be at Camp David the presidential retreat in the Maryland countryside 94 kilometres outside Washington, Ms. Perez said.

### Tyson gets speeding ticket

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (R) — Former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson, who is free on bail while awaiting sentencing for rape, was arrested this week for speeding, police reported. Police said Tyson was caught doing 73 mph (117 kmph) in an 55 mph (88.5 kmph) zone near Cleveland, Ohio on Tuesday night. Tyson was driving to promoter Don King's nearby farm, a police spokesman said. The former champion was ordered to appear in court on March 4 or admit guilt and pay a fine. Tyson, 25, is due back in court in Indianapolis on March 27 for the start of a three-day sentencing hearing on the rape charge. He is expected to be sentenced to six to 10 years under guidelines that would apply in his case.

### Japan village offers four-legged fringe benefit

TOKYO (R) — A remote Japanese village with a fast-dwindling population is offering free cattle and a fishing boat to lure three new residents. Chiba, a fishing and cattle-grazing community on the southern Oki Islands, will reward one settler with a small fishing boat worth about four million yen (\$32,000). The other two will get between three and eight cows. A cow is valued at about 500,000 yen (\$4,000), a village spokesman said. Chiba has seen its population plunge from a peak of 2,800 in 1950 to just 850 today. Will three more pairs of hands really help? "The farm people will probably bring their kids with them or if they are young will build a family," the spokesman said. "Anyway, we might increase the number if there is demand." At present, though, the village does not expect more than a few applications, he said.

### Police confiscate magazine that printed false bill

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Police raided a publisher Tuesday and confiscated 500 copies of a popular magazine that printed a copy of a 1,000-kronor bill and urged readers to cut it out and spend it. Attorney general Harald Driessels charged the publisher of Gazette with incitement. Several stores have complained that "false" kronor bills have been used and filed complaints. Driessels' office received a complaint Monday and decided to take action. "The magazine has incited fraud. And there have been cases when false bills have changed hands," Mr. Driessels told the Swedish News Agency TT. Police have been ordered to search stores and newsstands to confiscate other issues of Gazette. According to the attorney general the issue ran 47,000 copies. Editor Richard Flinck said the attorney general's confiscation was a great surprise. "We consulted lawyers in advance and were given the go-ahead if the facsimile was not an exact copy. The bill was an imitation, not a replica," Mr. Flinck told TT. The bill was printed on cheap newspaper print, it was darker and reversed," Mr. Flinck added. "The bill was intended to be a joke, but apparently it has not been appreciated by everyone. We apologise," Mr. Flinck said.